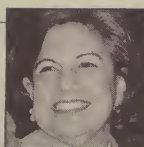
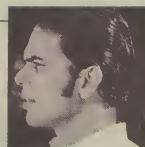


The debate over stopping therapy
Two studies on HIV treatment inter-
ruption yield different conclusions.
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Out for Susan Leal
LGBT event nets almost
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Film, Asian-American style
Gay Bollywood and beyond in
21st SF Asian-Am. Film Fest.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 33 • No. 10 • 6 March 2003

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

A look at Mission Station

by Joe Dignan

In the wake of the scandal rocking the San Francisco Police Department, the remaining command staff is trying to spread the message that the department is continuing with business as usual, but the charges of misconduct against five of the SFPD's top brass, founded or not, are causing reverberations through the culture of the department, particularly among its gay and lesbian members.



Out at Mission:
Capt. Greg Corrales

For the gay cops at Mission Station who rallied around Captain Greg Corrales when he was assigned to run the station last year after initial objections from the community, they're trying to assure the latest problems will not affect their day to day duties.

"It's not about the captain or the lieutenant," insisted openly gay police Sergeant Chuck Limbert, "the daily work is done by the patrol officers" who work out of the city's Mission Station that covers the Castro and surrounding neighborhoods.

The 10 indicted officers, including Corrales, pleaded not guilty to all charges at their arraignment Tuesday. Lieutenant Roger Battaglia has been assigned to run Mission Station, as Corrales is now on unpaid leave.

But the scandal has influenced public perception of the department and led many officers to question what critics have called the "blue wall of silence," a code of conduct which, critics allege, keeps many officers from speaking openly about the misconduct of their colleagues.

"We all wear the same uniform," said out lesbian patrol Officer Lisa Frazier, while walking her beat in the Castro. "I have people come up to me and say, 'I know this is nothing about you.'" But others, she said, are critical.

"[People will say] we're all crooked. We're all corrupt. That does hurt," Frazier said. "The scandals make all of us look bad."

The Bay Area Reporter got a tour of Mission Station Tuesday, March 4, and went out on patrol with Limbert, one of San Francisco's highest-ranking gay male cops.

At the 4 p.m. roll call at the station, on the day the 10 indicted defendants were arraigned, the sergeant in charge told the 11 patrol officers about to go out on duty that because of recent violence, the new official dress for duty

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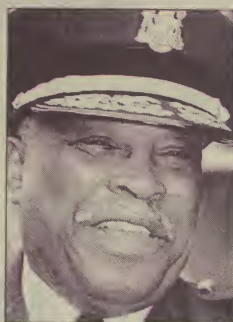
LGBTs react to SFPD shake-up

by Cynthia Laird

The grand jury indictments of 10 San Francisco Police Department officers, including Chief Earl Sanders and Assistant Chief Alex Fagan Sr., has led to a shake-up in the command staff of the department and resulted in a range of emotions from those in the LGBT community.

District Attorney Terence Hallinan on Monday, March 3 held a news conference in which he said "no one in San Francisco is above the law" and denied politics played a role in the scandal now engulfing the SFPD.

The 10 cops were indicted by a San Francisco grand jury Friday, February 28. Sanders,



Out on leave: Chief Earl Sanders



Now in charge: Acting Assistant Chief Heather Fong

leged cover-up into the investigation of the incident involving the three rookie officers. Additionally, several claims and lawsuits alleging brutality have been filed against Fagan Jr., including one by gay city resident Kevin Jordan.

In the aftermath of last Friday's indictments, Sanders has taken paid medical leave, while eight other officers volunteered Monday to go on unpaid administrative leave. Lee reportedly has been on paid disability leave since before the November 20 incident.

The 10 officers were arraigned Tuesday, March 4 in San Francisco Superior Court before Judge Kay Tsien. All entered pleas of not guilty.

On Monday, the Police Commission held an emergency meeting and, at the request of Sanders and Mayor Willie Brown, appointed Deputy Chief Heather Fong acting assistant chief, effectively putting her in charge of the 2,300-member department.

"I've never seen anything like this and I've served on the commission

under two mayors and three police chiefs. This is all foreign to me," Police Commissioner Wayne Friday told the Bay Area Reporter. Friday, who writes a political column for the newspaper, also said that he has confidence in Fong. "I think acting Chief Fong is one of the brightest members of the department."

Fong is the first woman to lead the department.

The Police Commission was expected to meet again Wednesday, March 5 after the B.A.R. went to press.

Range of reactions

Calvin Gipson, a member of the Pride board of directors, told the B.A.R. that in his opinion, the top police brass made a mistake by not completely investigating the November 20 incident.

"I believe the guys [Adam Snyder and Jade Santoro] in North Beach were assaulted by the off-duty officers and the reason I believe that is because I see police behave inappropriately in the Tenderloin quite a lot."

"I believe there was a cover-up," Gipson said, adding that he doesn't see race or racism as factors in the indictments handed down by the grand jury. "I definitely believe the officers behaved inappropriately and the leaders made a mistake."

Mayoral candidate and city Treasurer Susan Leal said that in the end, the mayor is

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Advocates say ADAP is in crisis

by Matthew S. Bajko

The nation's safety net to provide medications to people living with HIV and AIDS who otherwise could not afford treatment on their own is in a crisis situation, AIDS advocates and government officials warn.

Called the AIDS Drug Assistance Program, or ADAP, it provides life-saving medications for about 150,000 low-income HIV-positive patients throughout the United States. Because Medicaid and Medicare do not cover most HIV patients until they have progressed to an advanced stage of their disease, ADAP is often the sole resource for uninsured HIV patients who are not yet sick enough to qualify for Medicaid or Medicare.

Now, the program is facing its worst fiscal crisis since it began in 1987. The system is increasingly burdened and many cracks have already begun to show up throughout the national network of state ADAPs. Fourteen states have implemented waiting lists for their ADAPs and six more are examining ways to impose restrictions on eligibility for the programs. It is estimated that nearly 700 people in 12 states are currently waiting to enroll in ADAPs.

"We are in a crisis state with ADAP," warned Clint Trout, associate director of fed-

eral government affairs for the Los Angeles-based AIDS Healthcare Foundation.

Problems multiplying

Problems have been multiplying since 1995 with the introduction of protease inhibitors and the growing costs of highly active antiretroviral therapy. With HIV-positive people living longer, state and federal budgets have been increasingly strained with the higher monthly costs incurred over longer periods of times. As the country continues to suffer through a recession and the federal government funnels money toward the war on terror, it is becoming increasingly difficult to convince lawmakers to appropriate additional funds for ADAP.

"In the current climate, a number of ADAPs are in severe condition in terms of having budget shortfalls," said Michael Montgomery, deputy director of the California Office of AIDS, who oversees the state's ADAP. "California is going to be strapped in the current budget climate."

Montgomery added that California's ADAP will most likely receive some additional funding from the state, "but if we will be able to maintain services at the current level we provide is going to be a challenge."

Coalition attacked

At the same time, a national coalition of

community-based AIDS groups and pharmaceutical companies is coming under attack from various organizations that no longer deem it effective in lobbying for funding of ADAP. AHE, the nation's largest AIDS organization, maintains that the ADAP

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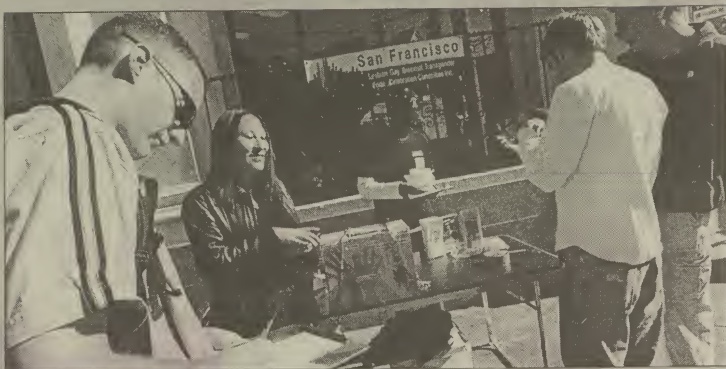
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Pride marshal voting begins



Members of the Pride Committee were at Castro and 18th streets last Saturday, as community voting got under way for the grand marshal of the Pride Parade. Voting is open to all and continues through the end of this month. For locations, visit www.sf-pride.org/yourvoice/gmpolling.htm.

Unique public health program jeopardized

by Zak Szymanski

Amidst the federal funding cuts to vital services and the San Francisco Department of Public Health's own budget crisis sits a little-known program whose termination will have big consequences for a large number of city residents, according to advocates. And termination is what seems likely at this point for the Transgender Life Care Project, which currently operates out of the Castro-Mission Health Center and through the University of California, San Francisco's Center for AIDS Prevention Studies.

TLC provides psychotherapy, case management, psychiatry, and outreach to transgenders in an effort to address mental health and substance abuse issues, which left untreated create "a ripple effect" throughout various communities, according to Michael Lipp, senior psychiatric social worker at the Castro-Mission Health Center and supervisor of the program. TLC is DPH's only program that

provides a licensed psychotherapist with transgender expertise in a public health center, allowing for "one-stop shopping" according to Lipp, for medical and psychological attention.

Specifically, TLC provides one full-time psychotherapist and four hours a week of psychiatry through the Castro-Mission center, and outreach and support groups through UCSF's CAPS.

Already, the TLC program is serving more clients than its grant required; the psychotherapist alone has seen more than 55 unduplicated clients. Many of these clients have multiple diagnoses of HIV, psychiatric, or substance abuse issues, said Lipp. Additionally, TLC is beginning to take on the transgender youth who are aging out of the Castro-Mission's Dimensions program.

But although the need for TLC is clearly there, the money just isn't. And this is the result of a "federal failure," said Dr. Saumitra Sengupta, a research psychologist with Community Behavioral Health Services, which administers the grant. "I'm very disappointed."

Come September, the federal grant that funds TLC is scheduled to end. Although the feds had

promised three years of funding at \$400,000 a year, and TLC is now only in its second year, the Bush administration specifically cut the "Reducing Disparities" funding that was responsible for TLC's existence, according to Sengupta.

"So it's been eliminated. There is no third year of funding," said Sengupta.

In the past, where feds have fallen short on public programs, DPH was often called upon to assist with cash from its general fund. But DPH itself is now facing \$35 million in cuts, and despite a letter-writing campaign and requests to the city for assistance, the outlook looks bleak.

"This is the worst time for this program to be cut," said Lipp, "because we can't go looking elsewhere for funding."

For concerned mental health professionals like Dr. William Henkin, a psychologist who has been in private practice since 1987, what little city funding is available should be prioritized for programs like TLC.

"It's just a travesty," said Henkin, who is not connected to TLC but who, like many other psychotherapists in private practice, tends to keep some low-fee slots available for clients at high risk for discrimination, substance abuse, suicide, and HIV.

"We're desperately understaffed in the service community for taking care of some people's needs, and we in private practice are simply not able to serve the vast and diverse needs required of this entire population," said

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COMMUNITY NEWS

PRC hires fundraiser as executive director

by Matthew S. Bajko

After a year of fiscal upheaval and staff layoffs, Positive Resource Center has turned to an experienced fundraiser and administrator to be its new executive director.

The nonprofit agency's board of directors hired Brett Andrews, 38, to lead the agency known for helping those living with HIV and AIDS find jobs and obtain disability and insurance benefits. Andrews will receive \$78,000 during his first year and began work on Tuesday, February 18.

"We are stabilizing nicely. What is also important is the community rallied around us while we were correcting ourselves," Andrews said last month after his first week on the job. "It speaks to the significance of the programs PRC sponsors. A lot of people in the community have utilized those programs."

Andrews, who is openly gay, is the agency's first permanent executive director since the fall of 2001, when in November of that year Ken Bukowski announced he was resigning in December. Several weeks later, the agency disclosed



PRC's Brett Andrews

its attempt to renew a \$750,000 governmental grant had failed and laid off five staff members.

The agency began 2002 uncertain of its future, with worries it may have to close its doors if it could not shore up its fiscal problems in order to cover payroll and cash flow needs. Through the financial assistance of the community and funding help from government officials, the agency weathered its financial storm and in May hired an interim executive director as it conducted a nationwide search for someone to per-

manently fill the post.

"PRC was one of the first AIDS service organizations to be impacted by the economic challenges that are now facing most nonprofits. Yet, instead of closing our doors, our board and staff worked diligently to restructure our operations, cut expenses, and respond proactively," said Jennifer Levin, acting president of the agency's board of directors. "In addition, the community responded with an outpouring of support that validated just how critical our core services are to people living with HIV and AIDS. As a result, we are now a stronger organization. We know there are still many challenges to face, but, with our new executive director on board and the ongoing commitment of the community, we're ready to embrace the future."

In Andrews, the agency has found someone with experience not only in running nonprofits, but in community fundraising. Prior to joining the agency, he was the executive director of Los Angeles Team Mentoring Inc., a nonprofit organization that operates TeamWorks, a group mentoring program that provides mentor

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Effort for July 4 Pride fails

by Joe Dignan

The San Francisco's LGBT Pride Parade and Celebration Committee turned down a proposal to change the date of its Pride Parade in 2004 from the last Sunday in June to Sunday, the Fourth of July.

The unanimous vote, by the eight board members present at the meeting on Tuesday, March 4, came after four months of meetings and discussions with an ad hoc group that said moving the date would give a more political tone to the Pride Parade and celebration which one said has become "more about partying than pride."

"My personal feeling is that there's not enough community support to bring this to the city and fight the fight right now," said Pride board President Joey Cain.

Cindy Shamban, an official in the city's Department of Parking

and Traffic, had said that because of conflicts with the annual Fourth of July fireworks display, moving the event would cause gridlock over much of the northern part of the city.

"It's impossible. Basically, it'll close the city," she said in a letter to Pride Executive Director Teddy Witherington.

But the most vehement opposition to the idea wasn't about logistics. It came from those who said they did not want the patriotic sentiments of the Fourth of July to dilute the message of Pride.

The parade's current date; the last Sunday in June, honors the anniversary of the Stonewall riots when hundreds of demonstrators rioted to protest discrimination against gays in front of the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar on New York's Christopher Street, after police raided the tavern on the Friday night of June 27, 1969.

"I want to ensure it is remem-

bered," Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francisco) said during an earlier interview.

Others said that they were opposed to any linking of Pride with patriotism. "As a person of color, I find Pride on the Fourth to be offensive," said Calvin Gipson, a Pride board member.

But the proposal did bring the Pride Committee and its board around to discussions about how Pride can become more political.

"The problem that brought us here was our own apathetic feelings about a major event," said one of the organizers, Hunter Gatewood.

"The people who brought this to us made us think about Pride and how political it can be," Cain said.

Now, Gatewood said, absent a date change, it remains up to the Pride Committee to come up with what he termed a "critical cause" to invigorate the event. ▼

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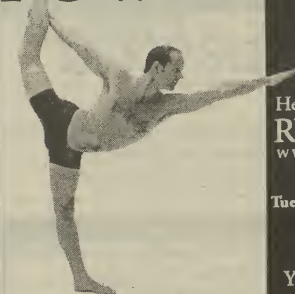
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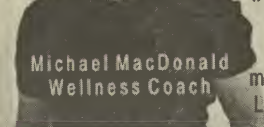
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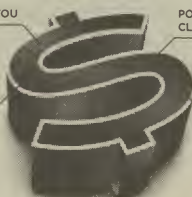
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Joseph ready to rule over nightlife — again

by Matthew S. Bajko

Less than a year after closing the doors to her venerable late night hot spot Club Townsend, Audrey Joseph is set to once again rule over the city's dance scene.

Her return cannot come soon enough for the city's gay club denizens, who have been left without a major weekly Saturday night dance space due to the closing last month of Gus Bean's Palladium.

Armed with a high-tech sound system — the first of its kind in the country — Joseph will open her latest venue on Saturday, April 5 at 444 Jessie Street behind the Old Mint building in the mid-Market Street area.

Although she would not reveal the name for her new club, a clue can be found in the latest issue of *Gloss* magazine, where an ad simply says "Mezzanine" with the April 5 date.

"It is absolutely not the return of Club Universe," said Joseph, referring to her Saturday night party which drew legions of gay men each week to hear resident DJ David Harness spin and witness dance divas from Ultra Nate and Amber to Grace Jones and Cyndi Lauper take over the club's stage. "All of our ideas are new, the musical choices will be new. You will not see a run of the same old DJs and you will not see a run of the same old environments."

Instead, Joseph said she intends to use her new club to promote up and coming talents in the local DJ scene as well as to play host to some of the world's hottest turntable masters. And she

promises to bring in more top singers to perform their latest dance hits.

"Our job as a community partner is to take local talent who are up and coming and build them into great DJs. We will not be bringing in a guy from New York and Chicago every week," she said. "How does that benefit San Francisco? It doesn't. Plus, the public cannot rely on what they are going to hear."

While Harness will not be coming back on Saturday nights, he will be lording over the DJ booth every Thursday night at a party called Congregation. As for reviving a Sunday night party to replace the former Pleasuredome parties, Joseph said she is still determining what to do.

"I am not superwoman. I don't think I can promote two or more nights on my own," said Joseph, who added she is looking for local promoters who may want to promote parties at the new space on Friday and Sunday nights. Eventually, she hopes to have the club open six nights a week.

The opening of the club has been delayed since the beginning of the year; Joseph said she originally wanted to launch on New Year's Eve. Only in the last weeks has she received her liquor license and begun the permit process with various city agencies.

It also took time to gut the new space, a former printing plant built after the 1906 earthquake. Joseph spent several months overhauling the interior as well as working on the facade of the building. Although it is smaller than her former space on Townsend Street, Joseph said the

new location has an energy and underground feel that will add to the vibe inside the club.

"I am a New Yorker. I came from underground clubs," she said. "The neighborhood is a little questionable so it's also got that feel when you approach it."

The club's sound system cost more than \$140,000 and was custom built in London and arrived at the end of February. The new system is horn-driven, which Joseph said allows for the clearest possible sound without the need to crank up the volume. The British club Heaven installed a similar sound system last month.

"It's going to be outrageous," she said. "It is a rich, sweet, delicious sound. You are going to want to eat it, it is so good."

She also is installing Italian-made lights that can illuminate objects and light fixtures which can be used for projecting animation. The one piece of technical equipment that Joseph is bringing from Club Townsend is what she calls the "Pleasuredome Venus," a lighting system resembling a spaceship which would descend from above the crowd in the middle of the dance floor.

Other than that, she said the new club will be totally different and innovative. And with the Bay Area economy still on shaky ground and the country bracing for a war that could come within weeks, a new diversion could be sorely needed come April.

"Is the public ready for something new that tickles their innards? I think so," she said. "I think they are always ready for that, whether it is good times or bad times." ▼

Gay bar in Danville proves popular

by Matthew S. Bajko

The karaoke nights may have been a bust, but Bleu, the Bay Area's latest gay watering hole, has become a popular night spot for queer residents of Contra Costa County.

Six months after three lesbians opened Bleu in the San Ramon Valley, the bar is drawing large crowds on weekends and has given many queer residents on the other side of the bay a reason to stay closer to home.

"San Francisco has a lot of choices where you can go, and out here you don't," said bar manager and part owner Heather Vaughn. "Word has spread like wildfire.

They are so stoked to have another place to go to."

There isn't much competition these days as far as gay bars go out in Contra Costa. Walnut Creek used to sport three gay bars, but JR's and DJ's closed down several years ago, so the only other gay bar is Club 1220 in Walnut Creek.

When Vaughn, along with friend Carmen Woo and Woo's former girlfriend Zuzana Lukacova, opened their bar August 30, the women didn't know what to expect. They had turned a former sports bar in a nondescript building along Danville's main drag into a sleek, sexy bar complete with pool table, fireplace, and lounge area.

"Blue is my favorite color and I

thought [the name Bleu] would be kind of different, that's all," said Woo, who found the location through a Web site listing. "We wanted to find somewhere safe. No more dark alley or hole in the wall."

As for opening up in the sleepy hamlet of Danville, the women never once doubted that the area could support a gay bar.

"Honestly, I think there are so many gay people around here it would blow you and me away," said Woo.

Without any major advertising — the women fliered other gay bars in Walnut Creek, Oakland, Berkeley, and Hayward — the local gay community soon found its way to Bleu, located off Highway 680 on

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International Women's Day celebrated

by Zak Szymanski

It has been 83 years since the United States granted women the right to vote, and since then, women have made great progress but simultaneously remain undervalued throughout the world.

Reflecting on achievements, celebrating victories, and anticipating future struggles is the theme of International Women's Day, celebrated around the globe on March 8. A holiday born of struggle and protest in the early 1900s, International Women's Day was officially recognized by the United Nations in 1980 and today is observed in a variety of ways.

The Bay Area boasts its own offerings of International Women's Day events this year.

San Francisco's Women's Building, at 3543 18th Street, will host "Movement" from March 7-9, billed as three evenings of performance, music, dance, and art to inform and entertain. The event showcases dozens of women artists through visual installations, interactive outdoor theater, and stage shows.

"Movement will move, astound, and inspire the audience to envision a world without war and violence—a world that can only be built from the love, rage, and struggle of all generations," according to organizers.

The multicultural, sociopoliti-

cal event features Rhodessa Jones of the acclaimed performance troupe Cultural Odyssey; artist Chola con Cello; the young women's ensemble Las Locas, led by choreographer Heather Watkins; and the female hip-hop dance group Sisters of the Underground.

Tickets to Movement are \$5-\$10 for those under 18 and \$10-\$30 for adults. Doors open at 7 p.m. each night. For more information, call (415) 431-1180, ext. 17.

The University of California at San Francisco will sponsor its own International Women's Day event on Friday, March 7, with a symposium tackling issues around women and HIV.

"AIDS Has a Woman's Face: Gender, Power, and New Strategies for HIV Prevention" will take place at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel at 450 Powell Street from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Recognizing that for the first time, half of all adults living with HIV in the world are women, symposium presenters

will focus on innovative prevention strategies that empower women to protect themselves.

The program will feature keynote speaker Dr. Helene Gayle, director of the Gates Foundation and co-chair of the global HIV Prevention Working Group. Other presenters include Nancy Padian, Ph.D., director of the women's Global Health Imperative and the International Programs division at UCSF's AIDS Research Institute; Suellen Miller, Ph.D., associate director of WGHI; Kavita Ramdas, president and CEO of the Global Fund for Women; Hazel Chinake, project coordinator of the University of Zimbabwe-UCSF Collaborative Research Programme in Women's Health; and Dr. Sandra Hernandez, chief executive officer of the San Francisco Foundation.

UCSF's Women's Day symposium is free and open to the public; call (415) 364-1444 for more information.

Also on March 7 is an event at the Unitarian Universalist Fellow-



Green, one of the performers at Women's Day event in Berkeley.

ship Hall in Berkeley entitled, "In Song and Struggle," a women's day benefit for CopWatch, an all-volunteer organization that works to defend civil liberties and human rights.

The fourth annual evening of music and spoken words features activists Julia Butterfly Hill and the group Food Not Bombs; and performers Rachel Garlin, Melis-

sa Crabtree, Gwen Avery, Andrea Prichett, Green, Clabber Gyril, Making Waves, and Poetry for the People. The event is ASL interpreted and wheelchair accessible. The venue is located at 1924 Cedar, at Bonita. Tickets are \$10-\$20 and doors open at 7 p.m. For more information call (510) 548-0425.

And on March 8 at San Francisco's LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market Street, a public forum and art show will be held to address the needs of older women around housing, medical care, and emotional, spiritual, and psychological needs. "Twilight" will feature panelists Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon; Kendree Allison from New Leaf's Outreach to Elders program; senior housing advocate Barbara Cooke; and Rainbow Adult Community Housing's Dr. Marcy Adelman. The forum is \$15-\$50 and takes place from noon-3 p.m. and the art show runs through March 17. For reservations and more information call (510) 883-1948. ▼

Get your
BCEF dinner
tickets now

by Zak Szymanski

The Breast Cancer Emergency Fund, created as an offshoot of the AIDS Emergency Fund to address the needs of low-income women living with breast cancer, presents its third annual dinner on Friday, March 14, at 7:30 p.m. at the San Francisco Zoo.

Organized once again by leather family icon Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt, the dinner, "Wild and Wonderful Future Ahead," will be held in the "Leaping Lemur Center" across from the flamingo exhibit, and will include a three-course meal with wine, entertainment, and a silent auction.

Tickets for the dinner are \$75, and all proceeds benefit local women with breast cancer who cannot pay their basic cost of living bills. Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among Bay Area women and is the leading cause of death for women ages 40-55. Many women who are diagnosed must stop working and simultaneously find themselves faced with increased medical, child care, and transportation expenses.

Those unable to attend the dinner may still make a donation; sponsoring someone less fortunate for \$75 allows that person to enjoy one of the social highlights of the season.

Tickets are available online at www.frantix.net, or by calling (866) 372-6849. For more information call (415) 292-9808, extension 2.

The San Francisco Zoo is located off Sloat Boulevard in the Sunset District. Parking is free in the zoo lot, and the Muni L line stops a block away. ▼

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OPEN FORUM

The SFPD crisis

The San Francisco Police Department crisis that has unfolded in recent days shows what happens when high-ranking department brass adhere to the so-called blue wall of silence and seemingly go to any lengths to protect their own. In this case, a street fight allegedly instigated by three off-duty officers, including the son of the assistant police chief, mushroomed into a full-fledged scandal that has rocked the city and brought down several members of the SFPD's command staff, including Chief Earl Sanders. While the 10 men indicted by a grand jury have pleaded not guilty to the charges, nine of them are on administrative leave; and Sanders, while still technically the chief, has gone out on medical leave, effectively handing over duties to acting Assistant Chief Heather Fong.

When it became clear to us late last year that the department was stonewalling in its investigation into the street brawl incident, we strongly called on the department to fire rookie Officer Alex Fagan Jr.

Fagan Jr., one of the indicted officers, had a history of anger management issues that were observed by his superior officers and allegations of misconduct that clearly showed he should not become an officer. We wrote that the November 20 incident on Union Street involving Fagan Jr. and Officers Matthew Tonsing and David Lee was the first real test for Sanders, who had been appointed chief in July 2002. Now, the grand jury has indicted Sanders, Fagan Sr. and Deputy Chief David Robinson of obstructing justice when they reassigned Lieutenant Joe Dutto, the only officer who was actually trying to get to the bottom of what happened during the Union Street fight.

Other top command staff members were also indicted for their alleged roles in hindering the investigation. According to the indictment, high-ranking members of the department allegedly called off interviews of potential police department witnesses, placed a request for cell phone records "on hold," and otherwise tried to prevent the investigation from proceeding, among other charges.

Predictably, Mayor Willie Brown lashed out at District Attorney Terence Hallinan, accusing him of playing politics. Former Supervisor Amos Brown stirred up charges

of racism (Sanders is the first African American chief). In our view, neither of those claims are substantiated. Several speakers at Monday's emergency Police Commission meeting — including many people of color — rejected the race-baiting. Such accusations, said Bay Area Police Watch attorney Van Jones, are an insult to Hallinan, and undermine the racial justice struggle. We couldn't agree more.

At his news conference Monday, Hallinan summed up the feelings of many when he called the allegations against the officers "extremely distressing." "They strike at the heart of our civil liberties, a cause for which I have fought all my life as a private citizen, as an attorney, and as an elected official," he added.

The next step, we believe, is for the Police Commission to take a more active role in the matter. An independent department-wide investigation is in order, and new command staff must be made to realize that

future investigations involving department personnel must be conducted thoroughly. So far, the Police Commission has done little — members last Friday appeared to cave in to Brown when he begged them not to suspend the indicted command staff. By Monday, when it was clear pressure was

reaching critical mass, Fagan Sr. went to the mayor and offered that he and other top brass step aside, which the commission accepted.

The SFPD has now become a major issue in this year's mayoral race, as the next mayor will appoint a new chief. The candidates must

step up to the plate and demand full accountability from the department. They must also outline their ideas of leadership and accountability. The days of a mayor staunchly defending indicted commanders must end. Public confidence has been shaken and that must be restored.

The hard working cops — and there are many — deserve untainted leadership, and the community demands it. ▼



Editorial



Medicare: Why the HIV/AIDS community must engage

by Randy Allgaier

When the HIV/AIDS community discusses public funding for care and treatment, most of the talk is about the Ryan White CARE Act and Medicaid. Rarely does Medicare get a mention. The reason for this omission is clear: until the development of highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART), most people living with HIV/AIDS did not survive long enough to become eligible for Medicare. In order to become eligible for Medicare, a person who is under 65 years of age must have a disability determination (such as an AIDS diagnosis), sufficient work history to qualify for Social Security Disability Insurance, and complete a 29-month waiting period from the time of the disability determination before receiving Medicare benefits.

Now people are living longer and many are qualifying for Medicare. Eighteen percent of people living with HIV/AIDS rely on Medicare as their primary source of health-care coverage. In 2002, federal spending on HIV/AIDS care through the Medicare program was \$2.1 billion, making it the second largest source of federal funding for AIDS care and treatment. (Medicaid is the largest source and Ryan White CARE funding is third). Medicare's critical role in meeting the health care needs for people living with HIV/AIDS seems clear for these reasons alone.

But it is the current national debate on developing a Medicare prescription drug benefit that has far reaching implications for the HIV/AIDS community. Currently, Medicare does not include prescription drug coverage and most beneficiaries with HIV/AIDS rely on the AIDS Drug Assistance Program or Medicaid, if they are lower income, to obtain their drugs.

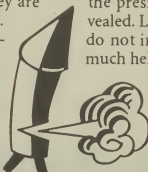
Both ADAP and Medicaid programs are facing fiscal crises this year. In California, Governor Gray Davis is proposing significant cuts in Medi-Cal (California's Medicaid program), which would result in the loss of health coverage for thousands of Californians, and proposing high copays for some ADAP clients. If a public comprehensive Medicare prescription drug benefit is developed, it would eventually ease the burden on Medicaid programs and state ADAPs.

Although the specifics of President Bush's proposal for a Medicare prescription drug benefit are vague, it is clear that it will rely heavily on private insurance options. In the 2004 federal budget proposal, the Bush administration points to the Medicare + Choice program (Medicare HMOs) as a model for a potential prescription drug benefit. It seems puzzling to use this program as a model since it has not been successful in providing options for beneficia-

ries, with limited availability in rural areas and many private insurers pulling out due to fiscal restraints. These withdrawals have affected more than 1.6 million people and are expected to continue in the future. Whether there would be caps in the coverage or restrictive drug formularies within the president's proposal has not been revealed. Low caps and drug formularies that do not include AIDS drugs would not be much help to people with HIV/AIDS.

There is a lot at stake. A robust public Medicare benefit would be a critical source of coverage for people with HIV/AIDS and could ease the burden on already strained state ADAPs and Medicaid programs. A flimsy benefit that is subject to the vagaries of private insurance companies will benefit no one. As the nation begins to engage in a debate on a Medicare prescription drug benefit, the voice of the HIV/AIDS community is imperative. ▼

Randy Allgaier is an HIV/AIDS Medicare policy consultant for the National Association of People with AIDS and a member of the San Francisco HIV Health Services Planning Council. For more information on HIV/AIDS and Medicare please visit www.aidsmedicare.homestead.com/home.html.



Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Wayne Friday owes me an apology!

I read Wayne Friday's February 27 column ["A look at mayoral race"] and it made me laugh. Wayne treats me with disdain because I stopped campaigning for supervisor against Chris Daly to work to recall Willie Brown though I knew we would not succeed. Friday loves Brown and often seems connected to him at the hip and clearly supports Brown's hand-picked replacement. What patronage perks does Friday get and will they continue if Gavin Newsom is not elected?

Harvey Milk ran for office four times before success rewarded his persistence. What sour journalists called him a perennial candidate, a political joke, and questioned a camera store owner's qualifications to govern a major city? Harvey blew off such criticism and persisted in taking his campaign to common people on the street. He knew that he could win and that people would join him and vote for him in spite of what his demeaning critics said; and he did.

Friday says that Newsom was the first mayoral candidate to address the homeless issue with Care Not Cash last fall. Wrong. I spoke about housing the homeless four years ago when I first ran for mayor. I talked about building very small houses for homeless people who were willing to clean up their acts and clean up a city block in exchange for housing. After my first failed run for mayor, I put my talk into action by building the first ShelterOne house at my own expense. I ran for mayor in 1999 and I am running today because Friday's pal Brown made campaign promises that he did not keep.

If Newsom has a plan for housing the homeless, where is it? His Web site says, "Gavin's Web site is currently offline. Please check back later." Their political consultants must still be thinking about what to say. Tom Ammann and Angela Alioto's Web sites, when I checked last week, did not have the word homeless anywhere. Susan Leal does not have a Web site and only Tony Ribera and I have anything to say about the issue. I have had my Web site up for four years because I intend to force the well-funded candidates to address the issue, not just talk about it.

I ride Muni buses four days a week, introduce myself to a thousand people a day, and get new volunteers every day. Friday demeans my volunteers when he dismisses my efforts to solve problems that affect their lives and he owes them an apology.

I invite Mr. Friday to come see my small house after he attends Newsom's lovefest at Civic Center on Saturday, March 8. I am having an open house of ShelterOne from 1 to 3 that afternoon. Brown and Friday demean my small house yet they have never had the courtesy to step inside it. Friday, put up or shut up and bring Newsom with you; he might learn something he could post on his Web site.

Jim Reid
San Francisco

Upset over 'white trash'

Several of our members noticed that you validated the old slur "white trash" in your paper today ["Strangely erotic Jackasses," *Guest Opinion*, February 27].

You must not realize that gay-bashers and white-bashers are often one and the same, and that "white trash" is frequently a target phrase, singling out a victim for a beating or worse. There are at least three documented instances of gay-bashing that included race-based slurs like "white trash" in the past three years in the Bay Area.

We thought the B.A.R. was committed to a slur-free environment. We thought wrong.

Stanley Womack
Resisting Defamation
Sunnyvale, California

Challenging Gay Shame critics

Due to an energy-depleting illness, I seldom respond to political events or statements these days. However, I find that I can't let the letters from James "Jimmer" Cassiol and T.C. Stewart [*Mailstrom*, February 27] be tolerated without a challenge.

Actually, I guess I'm responding to Mr. Cassiol's remarks as T.C. Stewart never states why he is so "disgusted." According to Cassiol, Gay Shame should not have protested the event, or Mr. Newsom's presence there, because the event raised \$20,000. The fact that money is his primary concern is underscored by his bizarre idea that people should not be allowed to protest events at the community center unless each donates \$500 beforehand. Besides being anathema to democratic concepts, this idea assumes we are all employed in jobs that make enough money to afford such donations.

Furthermore, he suggests police must "do their job" by using force to stop protesters from entering the community's building, especially since they were preventing "destructive and violently threatening" behavior. I don't recall reading anywhere about destruction and violence perpetrated by Gay Shame. The only such behavior I know of was by the police.

I've been out and politically active for 35 years. I've

heard sentiments such as those expressed by Mr. Cassiol over and over again. Think Stonewall, gay bathhouse raids, the police riot at Peg's Place, the White Night riot, and various police sweeps of Castro and Polk streets.

Protesting is never an invitation to police violence. One segment of a community demonstrating against the actions of another is never an invitation to police violence. Siding with police against queers is a foolish and grievous undertaking.

Gay Shame indeed!

Willie Walker
San Francisco

Gay Shamer comes out

I'll gladly come out as a member of Gay Shame. Contrary to what most people assume about us based on our name, we are not ashamed of who we are, and we're not a bunch of loony, violent activists like the media makes us out to be.

For those who are misinformed about Gay Shame's purpose, we are a radical anticapitalist group of proud queers (and that includes everyone, homo, bi, trans, genderqueer, and so on) who want to see the gay rights movement revive its proud heritage of passionate, revolutionary, theatrical brilliance, instead of a meaningless capitalist celebration of Smirnoff, Bud Light, and Diesel. It's not about hating ourselves or other queers. It's about going back to our roots and celebrating who we are without corporate sponsorship.

The reason we were protesting Gavin Newsom's fundraiser is not because we don't want the center to have money. The center is a good thing. We like the center. The protest was intended to inform the gay community that Newsom's fundraiser was not a generous gift from an altruistic benefactor, but a sneaky way of trying to win himself the gay vote. And we were there to say that we, as part of the gay community, don't accept his bribe. His steep cover charge of \$125 is proof enough that he only supports the wealthy gay elite, not the rest of us.

And as for "Jimmer" Cassiol's inarticulate letter suggesting that Gay Shamer's each donate \$500 to the center—I see that Jimmer, like most people, has completely missed the point of Gay Shame. We're poor! I doubt any one of us has \$500 to spend on food and clothing, let alone donations to the center. That's why we don't like Newsom, because he's antipoor. Get your heads out of the Castro, people. Not all queers in San Francisco are well-to-do, and we're not all fans of Newsom and his bribe money.

Lastly, for those of you who were not at the center on February 6, could you kindly stop running your mouths off about what we were supposedly doing and how we deserved what we got? If you weren't there, you wouldn't have happened to catch the police officer who reached over two people to smack a woman in the head from behind, when she wasn't even one of the people who was trying to enter the building. I witnessed many similar instances of officers hitting and pushing people who were just standing there, not threatening the officers or anyone in the center.

You wouldn't have seen the excessive force used to move someone out of the way of the police van—a simple hold and drag would have sufficed, but this particular officer chose to grab my friend roughly by the arm and throw him to the ground, causing him to hit his head on the pavement. It was completely unnecessary, and I think police officers need to be retrained on how to properly restrain someone without excessive force. They also need to learn that their job does not give them the power to take their aggressions out on people just because they don't agree with their politics.

Cowen J. Conaghan
San Francisco

Grove's hollow argument

I was disappointed to read in your paper that the board of the National AIDS Memorial Grove is opposing the proposal to limit car access in Golden Gate Park on Saturdays in order to create a safer and more enjoyable recreational area ["AIDS Grove opposes park closure plan," February 27]. As described in your article, the proposal is quite limited in scope, as it applies to only a few short stretches of road, all in the northeasternmost corner of the park, for only a few hours a week; also, the two streets that the grove is on—Bowling Green Drive south of Middle Drive East, and Middle Drive East itself—are not even part of the proposal.

The argument that the plan would limit the access of volunteers sounds especially hollow considering that many events, such as A la Carte, a la Park and Opera in the Park, attract thousands of people to Golden Gate Park on Sundays, when car-access limits are in place. Finally, there's an unfortunate element of selfishness in the AIDS Grove's desire to be located in a place of restful peace and relaxation (which is understandable) but objecting to extend those benefits to others who would similarly enjoy the park.

Niko Letunic
San Francisco

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Dancing around the binary

by Gwendolyn Ann Smith

I have a secret passion. I own a 1964 Rambler.

Well, it's hardly a secret: anyone who has talked to me for any length of time over the last two years has heard me go on about this car of mine, from discussing the rebuilding of the head to carrying on about the chrome-plated tissue dispenser.

This hobby of mine catches some people short. I've gone to great lengths to be seen as a woman, and there are some folks who just don't feel it makes much sense that I would get all greasy working on an old car.

Apparently, it's not lady-like.

Comments like that always surprise me. I was a child of the 1970s, and witnessed the fight for the Equal Rights Amendment. While my mom was often antifeminist — I recall her one day proclaiming that she would automatically throw away any letter that came to her with "Ms." before her name — I embraced the notions of the movement.

Never mind that there are feminists out there who would have a heck of a time embracing some of my views. I doubt I'll be seeing

Janice Raymond or Germaine Greer pushing for transgender rights anytime soon. But I digress.

Back in those halcyon days of the women's movement, who would've thought that nearly 30 years later, people would still think some things are the domain of women, and others belong to men? Barbie dolls in all their pink finery still sit on one side of the toy aisle, far apart from G.I. Joe's fatigued glory. "Girl groups" and "boy bands" push very divergent — and gendered — images. And yes, mechanical intuition is still largely seen as a domain open solely to men.

To me, it seems that transgenderism pokes a lot of holes in all these gender "essentials." When I was young, it wasn't G.I. Joe that topped my holiday wish list, it was Barbie. Conversely, I've talked with more than a couple young FTMs who would have been more



than happy to have had the toy fire trucks and cap pistols I was always given.

It's more than this, though. One can just look at the above as showing how I was simply reinforcing gender stereotypes by wanting a few inches of injection molded plastic wearing cheap high heels. But if that is the case, then why do I not so eagerly conform to the so-called "rules" attributed to the gender I live in today? Hint: it isn't some left-over remnant of my past existence that I'm still clinging onto.

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SF Pride 2003

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|---|---|
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Larry Brinkin | <input type="checkbox"/> Vicki Marlene |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rahn Fudge | <input type="checkbox"/> Aleem Raja |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Robert Jobe | <input type="checkbox"/> Snatch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carolyn Laub | <input type="checkbox"/> Hank Wilson |

COLUMN B. ORGANIZATIONS

- ☐ Lesbians In The Visual Arts
- ☐ Marriage Equality California
- ☐ Team San Francisco
- ☐ TriKone
- ☐ Youth Gender Project

COLUMN C. PINK BRICK

- ☐ George W. Bush ☐ Dr. James Dobson ☐ Fred Phelps

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POLITICS

Democratic presidential field grows to nine

by Wayne Friday

I intend to be the Democratic nominee for president; I am the best prepared to lead and the one most able to win," declared U.S. Senator **Bob Graham** of Florida last week as he became the ninth (count 'em, nine!) announced Democrat to enter the race to oppose President Bush in the 2004 general election.



Senator Bob Graham

Graham, 66, a former governor of his state who is serving his 16th year in the Senate, is recovering from recent heart surgery, but took a major step last week by filing papers to begin raising the necessary funds for a major campaign and will make a formal announcement the first of next month.

The field of Democrats who have either formally announced their candidacy or formed an exploratory committee continues to grow, but Graham, though a bit late entering, becomes an instant "serious" candidate in that he has the ability to raise the necessary funds and has long been popular with voters among both parties in a state with 27 electoral votes, crucial in any presidential election.

With former Vice President **Al Gore** out of the race (ask him how important Florida's electoral votes are) there is no current Democratic front-runner, and despite **George W. Bush's** still healthy job-approval ratings, there is growing sentiment nationally that the Republican president might be vulnerable in 2004. It should be pointed out that one of the candidates now running, Representative **Richard Gephardt** (D-Missouri), who ran for the nomination in 1988, decided to sit out the 1992 election after the first President Bush built towering approval ratings because of the Persian Gulf War. In fact, while the current stock of Democratic candidates has quickly grown to nine, at this point in the 1992 race, no single Democrat had announced for the presidency. Eventually, as we so well know, a little-known governor of Arkansas, **Bill Clinton**, won the nomination in a weak field of six, then succeeded in ousting the once-highly popular **George H.W. Bush** a few months later.

This year, however, the Democratic field has imploded to the extent that everyone of any small amount of political stature—from Representative **Dennis Kucinich** (D-Ohio), the one-time "boy mayor" of Cleveland to the controversial and outspoken civil rights activist the Reverend **Al Sharpton** of New York has

jumped into the fray.

Others obscure wannabe candidates like former Illinois U.S. Senator **Carol Moseley-Braun** have announced they will run. So many like Moseley-Braun, Kucinich, and Sharpton are getting into the act that the Democratic race is quickly becoming fodder for late night comics and conservative publications. The *Weekly Standard* magazine last week ran a fake *USA Today* article headlined, "San Diego Chicken joins Democratic Field; So Does Siegfried, But Not Roy."

The growing field of Democrats reflects the fact there is no dominant front-runner—Massachusetts Senator **John Kerry** might be the possible exception—and due to the pending war on Iraq and Bush's tanking economy, Democrats feel that the president is beatable next year.

Kerry, Graham, Gephardt, Kucinich, Sharpton, and Moseley-Braun are joined by U.S. Senators **John Edwards** (North Carolina) and **Joseph Lieberman** (Connecticut) and former Vermont Governor **Howard Dean**. Others said to be considering entering the Democratic race include Senator **Joseph Biden** (Delaware), former Senator **Gary Hart** of Colorado, and retired Army General **Wesley Clark**.

While a case could be made that such a large field could weaken the eventual nominee, it is unlikely that the Kucinich-Sharpton-Moseley-Braun cadre (as well as a couple of others) will even make it to the early Iowa caucus, and then others will surely drop out by the nation's first primary slated for next January in New Hampshire. This old political junkie is thinking along the lines of either a Graham-Kerry or Kerry-Graham ticket to rid of us George W. Bush next year.

Politics and people

Chris Edwards, the openly gay candidate running for Napa City Council, went down for defeat Tuesday, March 4. Edwards, a former bartender at the Giraffe on Polk, came in sixth out of seven candidates, garnering only 411 votes. Councilman **Harry Martin**, who gay advocates accused of being homophobic and were clamoring to oust off the council, easily won re-election, coming in first place with 2,051 votes.

Chicago last week elected its first openly gay city alderman (councilman) when restaurateur **Tom Tunney** won the 44th Ward alderman seat.

In San Diego, **Bonnie Dumanis**, the out lesbian district attorney who unseated a veteran incumbent last November, is earning high marks in her new job. Dumanis, a Republican, pro-choice, Jewish former judge, elected in a county with deep fundamental and Christian influences, shows the increasing degree to which openly gay and lesbian candidates can appeal to a broad voter base even in a strong conservative Republican area. "San Diego is not San Francisco, it is not Manhattan. It is not what one would consider one of the centers of the gay universe and that is

surely significant," said **Jason Yunga**, a spokesman for the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, a Washington-based political action committee that funds qualified gay and lesbian candidates of both political parties.

Former Supervisor **Harry Britt** and Assemblyman **Mark Leno** (D-San Francisco), who were locked in a bitter primary fight exactly a year ago, might still have some political differences, but one thing they do agree on is that they both support Deputy City Attorney **Kamala Harris** for district attorney; Britt made his support of Harris very public this week and Leno is strongly in Harris's corner.

Around City Hall some are said to be wondering what was that Supervisor **Aaron Peskin** could have done to Board President **Matt Gonzalez** to warrant Peskin having been stuck on the Finance Committee with the likes of **Gerardo Sandoval** and **Jake McGoldrick**. Peskin is a decent guy who

most surely doesn't deserve that fate. Most City Hall observers will privately tell you that Sandoval and McGoldrick are the two least credible supes among the lot, but McGoldrick surely takes the cake. What a joke this guy has turned out to be; I'm told his colleagues are growing very weary of his endless chatter (seems he loves the sound of his own voice big time) and useless questions, and at least a couple of his colleagues are ready to walk precincts for somebody—anybody—who runs against him the next time.

Any Republican who thinks that Senator **Barbara Boxer** (D-California) is going to be a pushover in her re-election effort next year had better think again. She's raising big bucks to take on any GOP opponent and a recent poll in *CALPEEK* shows her leading possible opponents: Boxer (50 percent) versus **Bill Simon** (37 percent); Boxer (49 percent) versus Representative **Mary Bono** (37 percent); Boxer (43 percent) versus Representative **Doug Ose** (34 percent); Boxer (53 percent) versus Representative **Darrell Issa** (32 percent).

A note to the reader who has written—twice—to ask if I think former L. A. Dodger pitcher **Sandy Koufax** is gay or not. Hey, he says he's not, and who the hell cares anyway.

Finally, my "Quote of the Week" is from Senator John Kerry, a Democratic presidential candidate, referring to his recent prostate surgery and another presidential foe: "I wasn't worried until they told me the assisting physician for my surgery was Dr. Howard Dean." Not that good, huh? Well here's another (courtesy of *Newsweek*), from former Illinois Senator **Carol Moseley-Braun** (when asked what she majored during college): "I'm gonna guess it was political science, but I'm not sure, it might have been history. But, I'll check; I hadn't thought of that one." Duh.

And how was your week? ▼

Got a political tip? E-mail WayneFridaySF@aol.com.

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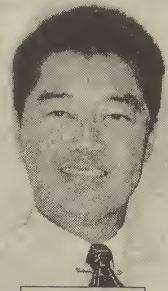
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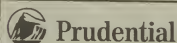
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Jim Hedges

The state of the religious right

by Dale Carpenter

The brightest minds of the religious right have spoken and that sound you hear is a collective intellectual thud. In 14 legal briefs filed in the U.S. Supreme Court recently, social-conservative groups supporting an antigay sodomy-law rely on arguments and "facts" that seem anachronistic and stupid. Unable to come up with good reasons why the state should criminalize consensual sexual relations between two adults of the same sex, they've been reduced to scaremongering about gay marriage.

The constitutional challenge arises in a case called *Lawrence v. Texas*, in which two men were arrested in a private home and convicted under a Texas law criminalizing oral and anal sex committed by same-sex couples, but not opposite-sex couples. A decision isn't expected until June, but the parties and their supporters have already filed their main briefs.

Texas' own brief, filed by the prosecuting county attorney's office, is relatively free of the antigay stereotypes and paranoia that mark its supporters' briefs. Texas argues primarily that its law is justified by states' traditional power to promote public morality, a con-

testable but not necessarily antigay legal basis for the law.

In brief after brief, the religious-conservative groups supporting the Texas law portray gay men as disease-ridden stalkers endangering public health. They emphasize the dangers of homo-

sexual anal sex, including high-rates of sexually transmitted diseases among gay men (like HIV infections) than are seen among heterosexuals.

"Anal sodomy is an abusive act, i.e., a misuse of the organs involved," asserts the brief for the American Center for Law and Justice, as if it were 1955.

Several, including the brief of Concerned Women for America, rely on a recent *Rolling Stone* article about "bug chasers," gay men who deliberately seek to become HIV-infected through unprotected anal sex. The fact that the article has been thoroughly discredited as inaccurate and sensational goes unmentioned.

A couple of the briefs, including one from a group of Christian physicians in Texas (upon whom the other briefs rely for evidence that gays pose a special danger), even revive the specter of "gay bowel syndrome," a medical "diagnosis" last greeted without hilarity when bean-bag chairs were in vogue.

All this is said to offer a rational basis for Texas to criminalize homosexual sodomy but not heterosexual sodomy. There are three problems, aside from their exaggerated character, with using these sex-scare arguments to defend the Texas sodomy law.

One is that they deal only with the dangers supposedly presented by gay male sex. They largely omit consideration of gay women. There is, for example, little evidence of HIV transmission between women. This is a serious omission in an argument supporting a statute that criminalizes both male-male and female-female sex.

A second flaw is that they deal only with the supposedly elevated dangers of anal, not oral, sex. There is, for example, scant evidence of HIV transmission through oral sex. Yet both are criminalized by the Texas law.

The third and most serious legal flaw is that there is no evidence (and the briefs offer none) that sodomy laws in general, or the Texas law in particular, have any effect whatsoever on general STD or HIV transmission rates. One reason for this is that such laws — because they are almost never enforced — do not deter gay sex.

It's revealing that the brief for Texas, in defense of its own law, places no reliance on the public-

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Marked

by Jane Warner

Pink Triangle Park, February 28, 11 a.m.: Police received a report of graffiti at Pink Triangle Park, located at Castro, Market and 17th streets. When officers arrived, they found two of the memorial Holocaust pillars spray painted in black paint with upside-down As. Nearby, on the side of the Ark of Refuge building, in the same black paint read, "Teresa, I love you for life." A Muni elevator also was painted with similar graffiti. Flattened and laying in the gutter by the roadway was a black spray paint can. Officers determined the graffiti did not constitute any specific hate crime and a malicious mischief report was filed. The Department of Public Works was notified for cleanup. A spokesman for the Eureka Valley Promotion Association, which spearheaded the effort to pay tribute to LGBT victims of the Holocaust, said that this was the first time the actual artwork had been vandalized.

Semantics

19th and Collingwood, March 1, 8:18 p.m.: Two men walking back to their parked car on 19th near Collingwood observed the front door open and a strange man sitting in the driver's seat going through the glove compartment. Both men yelled at the stranger and attempted to detain him as they called police on their cell phone. The intruder resisted, punching one of the men in the neck and kicking him in the rib cage. Breaking free, the suspect ran northbound on Castro with the men closely behind. In an at-

tempt to elude his pursuers, the suspect ran into Nirvana restaurant. The employees of the restaurant helped detain the suspect and called 911. Officers soon arrived and placed the man under arrest. "I didn't break in," the suspect pleaded. "The car window was open." The 21-year-old suspect was taken to Mission Station where he was booked for battery and auto burglary.

Haphazardous

Ules Imports, 4696 18th Street, February 22, 4:25 p.m.: The owner of Ules Imports was unloading his car when he noticed a silver Honda make a U-turn at the intersection of 18th and Danvers. The Honda proceeded to slow down along side of him and one of the four occupants yelled out the window, "You bitch." For no apparent reason, two of the passengers jumped out of the car and started to punch the merchant. Fearing for his life, the store owner ran inside, but the men followed, continuing to assault him and call him "bitch." One of the assailants bit him on the ear. Trying to escape the attack the victim ran out of the store and dialed 911 on his cell phone. The two suspects got back into the silver hatchback, which sped eastbound on 18th toward Castro Street. Responding police searched the area for suspects but were unsuccessful. However, they did find a witness who reported seeing a silver Honda on Market Street a short time before the incident. The silver Honda slowed down next to her and one of the occupants called for her to come over. She did not recognize any of the men in the vehicle and ignored them. She then saw the ve-

hicle turn down Danvers and out of sight.

According to the store owner, suspect number one is Caucasian, 25-28 years old, 6 feet tall, 190 pounds, with curly dirty blond hair shaved on both sides, a San Francisco Giants tattoo on his upper body, and wearing a red plaid button-down shirt. The other suspect was African American, 30-35 years old, 5 feet 8 inches, 170 pounds, with a short hair style, wearing sunglasses, a black or gray T-shirt, and blue jeans. There is no description of the two men who remained in the vehicle. A motive for the attack is unknown.

Delayed reaction

Muni coach, Church and Market Station, February 21, 8:55 a.m.: After boarding a crowded Muni, a woman noticed a man was standing directly behind her. As he stood there, he began to rub his body against her backside and groan in a sexual manner. The woman tried to move away but because of the many passengers was unable to get very far. When the train reached Church Street the man got off. Another passenger then approached the woman and told her she had witnessed the man take something from her purse. The woman checked her handbag and noticed her wallet was missing. Described as African American, 40-45 years old, 6 feet 1 inch, 170 pounds, wearing a tan plaid shirt, tan pants, and a gray jacket, the suspect was last seen boarding a "Castro Special." ▼



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Mission Station

◀ page 1

at any of the planned peace marches would be BDUs, a kind of jumpsuit, and baseball caps, allowing for a quick change to riot gear.

But, he said, "If you want uniforms, you'd better put in your request soon, before we run out of money." And then he cautioned patrol officers, "It's open season for selling down there. Now that the captain's been put away, they think they can get away with it."

The 11 officers make up about half of the 21 patrol officers on duty during that peak time of the day in the 375-square block area that Mission serves. The cops work 10-hours shifts. There are 10 police districts in San Francisco, and Mission is one of the three largest. So, out of the 2,300 police on the force, according to sources in the department, about 300 patrol officers are on the street at any one time in the city of 730,000 people.

"It's not so much a blue wall of silence," protested one cop who refused to be named for this article, "but it really is" quoting author Joseph Wambaugh, "a thin blue line."

So, as another source confirmed, loyalty to compatriots is not just about advancement in the force. It's about personal safety in difficult situations.

But advancement is a factor in the code of protecting your own.

"A 30-year stay in the force would be fairly typical," Limbert said. Police, unlike other profes-

sionals with portable talents and training, don't tend to change employers very often, because of pension rules, and so popularity with other officers becomes much more of a factor than in business, where an unpopular person can often simply change jobs, and retain similar rank and pay.

And so it is with acquiescence that beat cops accept a situation where Chief Earl Sanders is allowed to go on medical leave in the wake of the scandal—to protect his pension. If Sanders can hang on to his title as chief through the one-year anniversary of his appointment in July, he will retire with a chief's pension, which sources in the department say, will be 90 percent of the \$18,000 extra he makes per year as chief, that is, \$16,200 more each year—for life.

By going on medical leave, Sanders is also protected, because the department's rules forbid the Police Commission from suspending any officer on disability.

Job is changing

Limbert, a 47-year-old for whom police work is a second career after work as a hospital administrator, said that the job is changing.

"The old beat cop was king of his beat. He didn't want the lieutenant or captain getting involved. It was an insult," Limbert said. Now, with instant communication, "anything serious gets bumped up right away."

"This is not the 1970s. The older officers don't want to stay on

page 19 ▶

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Susan Leal event raises almost \$60K

by Cynthia Laird

Looking to shore up support in the LGBT community, mayoral candidate and city Treasurer Susan Leal held a fundraiser February 26 in an effort to show that she can pull in the big bucks that it will take to fend off the avalanche of campaign cash raised by fellow candidate Gavin Newsom.

Leal raised just under \$60,000 during the two-hour event, her communications director Tony Winnicker said. About 218 people were at the party, held at the home of Jeff Anderson and Jeff Soukup, he added.

"I am so pumped up," Leal said before the enthusiastic crowd of supporters, "and this race is just beginning."

"We're going to have a united queer community and we're going to kick some ass."

Leal spoke of the endorsement she has received from Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francisco), and hinted that people supporting another candidate have issued veiled threats to withhold support from Leno's future races. She did not identify the candidate.

In a telephone interview last week, Leno declined to comment on the matter, though he did say he is 100 percent behind Leal.

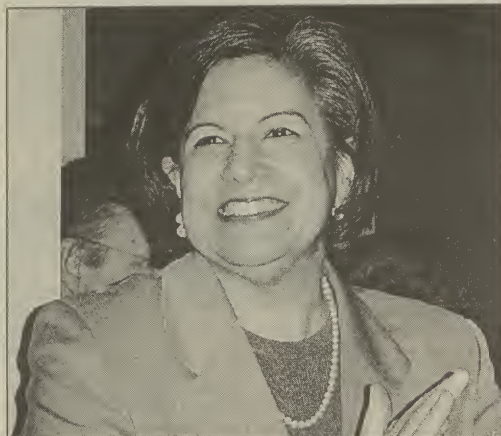
"It's important to realize with all the Gavin Newsom-mania around that there is real excitement for our candidate," Leno said. "There is trust and enthusiasm for her experience."

Before he introduced Leal, Anderson talked of her ability to build coalitions and took a jab at Newsom and the recent media reports about his failure to list loans on disclosure forms.

"That you're here shows the race isn't over," Anderson told the audience. "Susan is someone who knows how to fill out a disclosure form."

During her speech, Leal said she is running for mayor because she has the seasoned judgment to lead the city.

"I have financial and practical experience," she said, noting that before first being elected treasurer in 1997, she was a city supervisor



Mayor candidate Susan Leal at LGBT fundraiser.

and served as chair of the Finance Committee. Leal was re-elected treasurer last year with 87 percent of the vote.

Leal, a San Francisco native, noted that her parents were born in Mexico and her father started as a day laborer when they moved to the city.

"Together we can really turn this city around," Leal said. "This city needs to run a lot better than it does now."

She praised city workers, but said they need appropriate leadership. "The folks in my department — they have pride in their work."

Leal also said that economic development is vital if the city is to regain tax revenue.

"We are so damn arrogant in this city — we need to get over it. We're not doing a thing to sell to the business community," she said.

To entice companies to locate in the city, Leal ticked off a list of items attractive to business such as affordable housing. "If we don't have economic development, we can't pay for those services."

"Let me put my skills to work for you. This is a great town — together, we can turn it around," she said.

Winnicker declined to disclose how much Leal has raised in the two months since she's been soliciting contributions. Financial fil-

ings aren't due until July, he said.

"The fundraising is going very well," he said, adding that to date, Leal has raised more money than a number of candidates.

Newsom, a city supervisor, is hosting his big kickoff this Saturday, March 8 at the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium at 11 a.m. He has raised nearly \$600,000 as of the first of the year. Not to be outdone, Leal will be going across the city Saturday and Sunday, visiting each of the 11 supervisorial districts in what's being billed as "neighborhood kickoffs," Winnicker said. In District 8, Leal is scheduled to be at Lalo's, 2247 Market Street, from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. on Saturday. Leno is expected to be on hand.

In the South of Market area, Leal will be at Don Ramon's, 225 11th Street, at Folsom, from 4-5 p.m. on Saturday.

On Sunday, March 9, Leal will be in the Mission/Bernal Heights area at Casa Sanchez, 2778 24th Street, at York, from 12:45-1:45 p.m.

"From the Outer Sunset to the Outer Mission, she'll be barnstorming the city that weekend visiting a different neighborhood every hour, bringing the campaign where people live and shop — in the neighborhoods," Winnicker said. ▼

OCBC's Jones won't be jailed for med. pot

by Liz Highleyman

In a surprise development, a federal judge on Monday, March 3 rescinded a prison term for medical marijuana advocate Jeff Jones, who was convicted of misdemeanor jury tampering, and sentenced him instead to three years' probation.

Jeff Jones, director of the Oakland Cannabis Buyers' Cooperative, was charged with attempting to interfere with jury deliberations in the medical marijuana case of Bryan Epis of Chico, who last Oc-

tober was sentenced to a 10-year mandatory minimum federal prison term for cannabis cultivation. Jones pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor count last week to avoid a felony jury tampering charge. He had announced that he planned to begin a hunger strike as soon as he was taken into custody.

Jones was scheduled to report to jail on Monday, March 3, but instead, U.S. Magistrate Judge Peter Nowinski ordered him back to court and altered Jones's sentence from three months' in jail to three years' probation. Jones was

also ordered to pay nearly \$4,000 in restitution fees, which he did last weekend.

"I was utterly speechless when the judge started talking," said Jones. "I think the judge realized that he had let his anger get the best of him. He saw the error in his decision."

Jones was arrested for handing out literature outside the federal courthouse in Sacramento during jury selection for Epis's trial, which informed potential jurors about the background of the case, including the fact that Epis was a patient who was cultivating cannabis under the auspices of California's Compassionate Use Act (Proposition 215).

"I am relieved by today's ruling, but not surprised," Americans for Safe Access Executive Director Steph Sherer said of Jones's modified sentence. "I don't think this will be the last we hear on this topic." ▼

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HIV treatment interruption debated

by Bob Roehr

Strategic treatment interruptions (STIs) are one of the most controversial areas of managing HIV care. Do you ever stop therapy? For how long? For what reasons? In what patients? And what do you hope to see as a result?

You could find data to support just about any position at the recent 10th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections in Boston, and also caveats that perhaps this data didn't quite apply to you. Either the medical history of the patients in the trial was a little different, or the interruption differed, or the regimen they went back on wasn't quite the same.

An American and a European study reached very different conclusions on STI for the heavily treatment experienced patient, one who has failed multiple HIV regimens. Hope was that cession of therapy for an extended period of time would allow wild type virus to emerge and crowd out the drug resistant version. The wild type would be more vulnerable to therapy when it was reinstituted.

Dr. Jody Lawrence, of the University of California at San Francisco, presented for the multicenter CPCRA 064 study team that enrolled 270 patients. They had a mean baseline of 180 CD4 cells, a viral load of 5.0 logs, and had taken an average of 10.6 anti-HIV drugs. She said, "A little over half of the patients had had a prior opportunistic infection ... and almost half of the patients had triple drug class resistance."

Patients were randomized to a 16-week STI or immediate change to a new regimen. Resistance testing at baseline was used to select

an optimum drug regimen and each arm used a mean of 3.7 drugs in the regimen.

"The STI group showed no advantage compared to the control group in virologic response. This was despite repopulation of sensitive virus in approximately 64 percent of the STI group," Lawrence concluded that there was no benefit from a STI in this patient population, "patients should be maintained on HAART."

Dr. Christine Katlama presented results from the GIGHAART ANRS 097 trial in France. The 63 patients were similarly heavily treatment experienced. But the trial came to a very different conclusion — that a strategic interruption was beneficial.

The French trial differed in two perhaps crucial ways. First, the pause in therapy was for only eight weeks. Second, when therapy was resumed, it was with an eight or nine drug regimen.

The control arm of patients who immediately went on the massive regimen had a 0.37 log reduction in viral load at week 12, a 0.29 log reduction at week 24, and a 0.37 log reduction at week 48. The median CD4 count increased by seven T-cells at weeks 24 and 48.

By contrast, after the washout period and being on therapy for 12 weeks, the STI group had a 1.51 log reduction in viral load, a 1.0 log reduction at week 24, and a 0.79 log reduction at week 48. The median CD4 count climbed by 51 at week 24 and 69 at week 48.

"The differences are highly significant," said Katlama.

During discussion she added, "I don't think it is necessary to revert to a wild type virus" during the interruption period. "If in each clone there is some reversion, each clone has some degree of



Dr. Steven Deeks of UCSF

sensitivity. In a package of nine drugs, you can find some that can knock down the virus."

Partial treatment interruption

Dr. Steven Deeks raised the provocative idea of a partial treatment interruption for a very specific group of patients. He defined it as stopping the failing drug in a combination but maintaining the other drugs, without adding another.

The University of California at San Francisco researcher dropped a treat for those who had stayed for the final session of the conference — first-time data on 20 patients that had not been scheduled for presentation.

He reviewed how drug resistant virus is less replication competent than wild type virus, and it

produces less T-cell activation. When therapy is stopped, "a shift [occurs] in the virus population from drug resistant to wild type," said Deeks. "It is hard for the virus to become both highly resistant [to a drug] and highly fit" to reproduce.

He formed a hypothesis that perhaps using the still potent drugs in the combo might exercise sufficient pressure to keep the wild type virus from emerging and maintain the current drug-resistant virus as the dominant population. This would "improve the [patient's] risk/benefit ratio."

"The goal of treatment in these patients is not to treat the resistant virus, it is to ignore the resistant virus and use those drugs which are able to prevent the rebound of the more virulent, more fit wild type form," he explained. "Because the major benefit to patients was reduction of toxicity, the decision was made not to randomize patients but to interrupt the therapeutic drug class to which the patient was having the most toxicity."

Deeks discussed one patient "on a regimen of d4t + abacavir + efavirenz + nelfinavir, whose viral load had declined from about 100,000 to 1,000." But after more than a year he was experiencing significant toxicity and had high-level viral resistance.

"He remains on viable reverse transcriptase inhibitors and stopped his protease inhibitor [PI]. Through one year of follow up, the level of viremia has remained absolutely stable," Deeks

said. "This finding has been confirmed in a cohort of 15 patients. The change in viral load in this group was not statistically different from zero."

He also found "absolutely no shift in the dominant virus population," it stayed resistant to PIs though the first 24 weeks. In earlier work Deeks had found that when all therapy is stopped, mutant virus reverts to wild type after somewhere between two and 16 weeks, depending on the individual.

"This suggests to us that nukes continue to have direct activity against resistant virus. We did not see that early rise in viremia that we saw in the STI study," he said.

A parallel group of five patients "stopped only their nukes and remained on protease inhibitors. They had a rapid dramatic increase in their viral load. As a consequence of this, we stopped enrolling patients in this specific arm."

Deeks said they are looking very carefully at partial treatment interruption as "a bridge therapy as we wait for the next big thing." He saw multiple benefits of reduced toxicity, cost, and "no forward evolution of the virus in terms of protease inhibitors."

Dr. Bruce Walker, of Harvard Medical School, was excited by the data. "Changing the replication capacity of the virus is a real strategy to try to limit its effect. If that can be done successfully over a long time, one doesn't have to lower viral load that much to have a real clinical impact." ▼

Transmissions

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When I was younger — and was seen as a man — I was no fan of working on a car. Trying to work on the drum brakes of my first car — also a 1964 Rambler — was an exercise in futility, and I will never forget how much pain and aggravation I went through trying to put in a new transmission mount at one time.

I'd simply have to have someone else do the job, my dad, a friend or the occasional mechanic. It wasn't that I couldn't do the tasks, I suppose — it was that I lacked a basic interest in such things.

Today, all these years later, I do a lot better. While I'm still reluctant to lay open the guts of the engine and tinker with valves and pistons, I do know what they are, where they are, and what they do. I can usually tell you what the car is doing at any given time, and can often fix much of what might go wrong.

I only started to put socket to spark plug about two years ago, about half a decade after I started living in the world as the woman I am today. It's been a hobby that I've taken up long after finding a home in my skin where me and my gender can live comfortably. Working on a car from time to time doesn't make me any less of a woman, nor does it stop me from enjoying the occasional bit of stereotypical womanhood. It simply gives me a hobby.

As a friend of mine once put it, I'm dancing around the binary. She was no stranger to that herself, having been a poet, a dream-

er, a woman, and a steelworker in Pittsburgh.

Maybe this is one of those places where this thing we call "transgender" is a good thing. Not only can a person who was raised in one gender turn around and explore life in another, but we even have the freedom to make additional twists and turns, pulling a little gender from column "A" and a touch from column "B" as we see fit.

Like a transman friend of mine who lets his hair grow long, or a transwoman I know who has fun as a drag king now and then. We can not only reject the notion that the gender we are assigned at birth is the only one we can ever have, but we can toss aside outdated assumptions about the genders we choose to inhabit. Even more, by challenging these notions, we might end up showing others that it is truly okay to shed those whims of the gender binary that simply do not fit.

The other day, while looking at online auto auctions, I had to correct a seller. I let him know that Ramblers were made by American Motors, not Dodge. I had to smile when I read his reply. He said that being corrected on an automotive topic by a woman made him feel that we are indeed in modern times.

He's more correct than he realizes. ▼

Gwen Smith thanks Lauren Wilson and Sherri Parker for teaching her more than they thought. She can be found on the Web in Gay.com's "Transgender Gazebo," and at www.gwensmith.com.

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HIV and AIDS case rates rise

by Liz Highleyman

After falling for nearly a decade, the number of diagnosed AIDS cases in the U.S. rose slightly from 2000 to 2001, researchers reported at the 10th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections held last month in Boston.

Though the increase was small – just 1 percent – public health officials are concerned because it represents the first rise since 1993.

Researchers also reported that the number of people testing HIV-positive increased by 8 percent from 1999 to 2001 in the 25 states that report test results to the federal government. Dr. Ronald Valdeserri of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that the number of HIV cases rose 14 percent among men who have sex with men during this period, while the rate of heterosexual transmission increased by 10 percent. About half the new HIV cases were in women.

Valdeserri acknowledged, however, this “statistical snapshot” might not be accurate, since it does not include states with large HIV/AIDS caseloads – including

California and New York – that do not report new HIV cases. Data may be more accurate in 2004, when all states will be required to do such reporting.

“We may be seeing a resurgence of HIV infection in the United States,” Valdeserri said. “It’s only a single point in time, and we can’t say it’s a trend, but it is very worrying.”

Some prevention advocates and public health officials, includ-

ing those in San Francisco, have warned in recent years that they have seen an increase in high-risk sexual activity and in rates of other sexually transmitted diseases such as syphilis.

Based on statistical extrapolation, researchers estimate that 850,000 to 950,000 people in the U.S. are HIV-positive, an estimated 280,000 of whom do not know they are infected. Officials hope that more widespread use of a

new rapid HIV test, approved last fall, will encourage more people to learn their HIV status. The new test provides results in 20 minutes; the old test often took one to two weeks, and many people never returned to obtain their results.

The number of people living with HIV has increased over the past several years as the rate of new infections has remained similar (long estimated at 40,000), but fewer people have died of

AIDS since the introduction of new treatments in the late 1990s. Researchers at the retrovirus conference reported that the rate of death due to advanced AIDS or AIDS-related opportunistic illness continues to fall. However, an increasing number of people with HIV are now dying from other causes, including lymphoma and end-stage liver disease, often related to hepatitis C coinfection. ▼

BALIF dinner next Thursday

by Zak Szymanski

The 23rd annual Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom dinner celebration takes place on Thursday, March 13 in the Grand Ballroom of the Hyatt Regency Embarcadero in San Francisco.

Evan Wolfson, formerly of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, where he worked on behalf of the landmark Hawaii gay

marriage case and Vermont’s civil unions, will be the dinner’s keynote speaker. Wolfson is now executive director of the Freedom to Marry Collaborative, a national effort to win legal same-sex marriage.

The dinner will also include an awards reception, with the Community Service Award honoring the new LGBT Community Center, and the Legal Service Award going to San Francisco Superior Court Judge Donna J. Hitchens. A raffle will benefit BALIF’s Pride Law Fund, which makes grants to

law students working on projects that impact civil rights.

BALIF, founded in 1980, has a membership of nearly 600 lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgenders, and their supporters in the legal community, including judges, lawyers, legal workers, and law students. Its purpose is to address law and justice issues that affect the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community; strengthen professional and social ties among its members; build coalitions with other legal organizations to combat all forms of dis-

crimination; promote the appointment of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender attorneys to the judiciary and public agencies and commissions; and provide a forum for the exchange of ideas.

Next Thursday’s event is \$80 per person, or \$60 for those who make under \$50,000 a year. Law students pay just \$50. The event begins at 5:30 p.m. with a cocktail reception; dinner and the program begin at 7 p.m.

For more information or for reservations, call (415) 434-1600 or visit www.balif.org. ▼

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Sisters' grants deadline approaching

by Zak Szymanski

Interested nonprofits have until the end of the month to apply for The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence annual Easter grants, which give up to \$750 for projects such as start-up costs, program incentives, direct services costs, and scholarships.

March 31 is the Easter Grants deadline, and under-funded, smaller organizations are traditionally given preference. To qualify, groups must provide proof of 501 (c) (3) status and demonstrate specific needs. Also favored are organizations that provide direct services, particularly those with progressive projects that promote wellness, identity, and diversity within various queer and sex-positive communities. Grants cannot be used for salaries, general operating expenses, travel, or an individual's project.

Established in 1979, the Sisters is an order of drag queens who vow to “promulgate universal joy and expiate stigmatic guilt.” The group makes several grants throughout the year, including annual scholarships, the winners of which were just announced last month.

Recipients of the 2003 scholarships are Yinping Apple Lo of the University of California, Berkeley, who is working to promote toler-

ance and racial justice through the Teen Teaching Tolerance Program; Christopher Brian Logan of New College of California, whose activism includes securing adoption rights for gays and lesbians; Kaira Espinoza of San Francisco State University, who works to create empowerment programs for disadvantaged youth; Saron Anglon of New College, whose teaching credentials will be used in poor and migrant communities; Sandra Peterson, also of New College, who works on post-release plans with incarcerated youth and prisoners; Patricia Cotter of California State University, Chico, who is an environmental and farmers' advocate; Daniel Schweitzer of UC Hastings College of Law, who intends to use his degree for LGBT equality; Blake Arnall of Pacific School of Religion, who is studying to be a Quaker chaplain and plans to work in marginalized communities; Suemyra Shah, at

UC Berkeley, who is studying to become an international human rights lawyer; Rachel Elizabeth Goss, who works with LGBT youth to increase tolerance and teach peace; Christopher Lee Dial of Cornell University, who teaches gender, race, and class identities as they relate to social justice; and Casey Magee of Hunter College School of Social Work, who provides tutoring and mentoring for children in public housing. The Sisters awarded \$6,550 this past scholarship cycle.

Those organizations interested in the upcoming grants should complete a proposal and mail it to: The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, Grants Committee, 584 Castro Street, PMB 392, San Francisco, CA 94114. Applications may also be sent to SrHedra@sbcglobal.net. More information about how to apply for a grant can be found at www.thesisters.org/grants/grants3.htm. ▼

Unique program

◀ page 2

Henkin. “In a city like this we should be at the cutting edge of providing services. Until this program we didn’t have a single therapist devoted to these needs and that’s just not acceptable.”

Dr. Bob Cabaj, medical director of DPH’s Community Mental Health Services, said that the department is trying to work with federal officials to maintain TLC in the short term.

“Our office is writing to see if we can use unused funds in a rollover and fund the position for one more year, including the psychiatrist, but we have not heard back yet,” said Cabaj.

There is a possibility, said Sengupta, that the feds could come through with that rollover money, since the program’s first year was delayed in getting off the ground. If that happens – and Sengupta does not expect a decision on this until May – then the psychotherapist position may be preserved.

The other parts of TLC, however, would probably disband.

The psychotherapy and psychiatry components are key to the program, said Lipp, noting that relapses and psychiatric problems for transgenders would be just the tip of the iceberg for a population with ties to the larger LGBT community, the mainstream, and communities of color. HIV prevention in particular, said Lipp, becomes difficult for people living without mental and emotional support.

“Those without psychological information and ongoing counseling don’t have the support they need to keep making safer sex choices,” said Lipp. “And when it comes to safer sex, where there’s substance abuse and psychiatric illnesses not being treated, then all bets are off.”

TLC was already facing an uncertain future, said Sengupta, as the grant was supposed to expire in 2004.

“We were planning on tapping other avenues of funding,” said Sengupta, “but now we have to work under a crunch situation.” ▼

COMMUNITY NEWS

ADAP in crisis

◀ page 1

Working Group fails to respond to administration concerns, lacks accountability, and ignores drug pricing issues. The result, the agency said, is that these problems have contributed to insufficient funding for ADAP.

"AHF's patients who depend on ADAP need effective advocacy in Washington," said Trout. "After months of working to reform the group's practices, AHF is pulling its support and plans to use other venues to formulate an effective plan of action that will ensure HIV/AIDS patients in the U.S. will have access to medicines regardless of ability to pay."

AHF had belonged to the working group for years and saw it as the lead advocate for the program, but has become convinced the group is no longer effective. AHF's chief complaint with the working group is that it fails to address the issue of artificially high and ever rising drug costs. The agency maintains this is a "fatal weakness" for ADAP advocacy and points to the fact that in 2002, ADAP received an additional \$60 million in federal money to buy medications, but half of that was eaten up by drug price increases.

"The AIDS advocacy community should not allow itself to function as lobbyists for the pharmaceutical industry. AIDS groups must maintain their independence from drug companies: we are advocating for the lives of our patients, not for drug company bottom lines," said Michael Weinstein, AHF's president.

William Arnold, co-chair of the working group, said he respectfully disagrees with AHF and is not plused by its criticisms.

"The AIDS community has always felt free to criticize themselves and other people. That hasn't gone away," said Arnold. "It is a free country. I wouldn't say it is helpful but every year one or two or three community organizations opt out of the working group as do one or two industry folks who drop out."

AHF has specifically targeted GlaxoSmithKline, which it says egregiously used technicalities involving rebate calculations to avoid honoring a commitment to a two-year price freeze for ADAP. The ADAP Working Group did nothing and said nothing to force the company to adhere to its agreement, maintains AHF.

"Essentially, the ADAP Working Group has become a front for GSK, and does not have a plan to address this escalating crisis," said Weinstein.

"GlaxoSmithKline's dominance over the ADAP Working Group inhibits its inability to function as a true coalition," added Trout. "AIDS community pressure to reform the group's practices were sabotaged time and time again by objections from the company. Only a couple community-based HIV/AIDS groups remain active participants in the coalition. The organization lacks financial accountability and is almost wholly funded by industry."

Arnold counters that the working group's focus is not drug prices but on appropriations for the ADAP program.

"The ADAP Working Group doesn't discuss prices. It is illegal for us to discuss prices," he said. "There are plenty of places to fight the squabble over prices but that is not the focus of" the working group.

Local ASOs drop out

While AHF has been bullish in

announcing it is pulling out of the national ADAP Working Group, other community organizations have quietly withdrawn from the group and are forming their own advocacy coalitions to push both local and federal officials to increase ADAP funding. Both the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and Project Inform pulled out of the working group: SFAF in December and Project Inform last May.



SFAF's Ernest Hopkins

"We have joined a number of organizations to look for another community-driven process in D.C. to carry out our ADAP advocacy," said Ernest Hopkins, director of federal affairs for the foundation. "We began to feel over time that the group was a little too bound and not nimble enough to respond to the issues as they came up. We continued to have instances where the group was not able to make clear and forceful statements of the need to fund core programs."

Unlike AHF, the other organizations did not withdraw from the working group solely because of concerns regarding Glaxo-SmithKline or the influence of other drug companies.

"From our perspective, that was not a primary issue," said Hopkins. "We still have a working relationship with many pharmaceuticals seated at the table. Obviously, we see working with the industry in partnership as important to funding the ADAP program."

Project Inform characterized its decision to pull out of the working group as a staffing issue and said it does not share the same concerns as AHF does about drug company interference. Nor does the agency see its decision not to renew its membership in the working group as newsworthy.

"We don't concur with AHF's trying to create a news story out of it," said Ryan Clary, a public policy analyst at Project Inform. "Project Inform has limited resources and staffing to do policy work. We had to make a decision on how to best focus our staffing. Our efforts are best put, we believe, on working at the grassroots level with other advocates to increase funding for ADAP."

In that regard, the agency joined a group called Save ADAP last spring to petition for increasing funding to the program, and Clary said the agency still maintains a working relationship with the national working group on some of its advocacy efforts. The agency has taken part in call-in days to members of Congress to air its concerns about ADAP funding.

"I think this year Congress has really heard the message about the ADAP crisis," said Clary. "It is going to take a lot of effort and take grassroots mobilization. It will be challenging, as it is every

year. Especially in this political and economic climate, it is extremely challenging."

Through the National Association of State and Territorial AIDS Directors, state officials also maintain some input on the working group. California's Montgomery said he is not familiar with the politics surrounding the group and could not comment on why some groups opted to drop out. But he did stress it is imperative all groups find a way to work together in advocating for more resources from Washington.

"I think the ADAP Working Group, from my perspective, has historically accomplished a lot in terms of convincing Congress it needs to come to the plate," he said. "It is really critical at this time for all of us concerned about the financial integrity of AIDS services throughout the country to be working together."

Arnold readily admits that the working group hasn't been as effective as it would have liked to be in the last year. While it was estimated ADAP needed an additional \$162 million in order to assure everyone requiring help securing AIDS medications had access to the program, Congress only appropriated about half the money, roughly \$80 million.

"That was a bit of a miracle itself. The Bush administration and members of Congress don't want to spend a penny more on any health programs, let alone AIDS, than they have too," said Arnold. "I would sleep a lot better if we got everything we asked for."

Already, Arnold said ADAP will start the new fiscal year on April 1 with a structural deficit of

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San Francisco HIV Health Services Planning Council



The community planning group that oversees the prioritization and allocation of Ryan White CARE Act Title 1 and 11 funds (used to provide services for people living with HIV/AIDS in San Francisco, San Mateo, and Marin Counties) invites and encourages members of the public to attend their meetings and provide public comment.

The Planning Council usually meets the fourth Monday of each month from 4:30 to 7:30 P.M. in the Mayor's Conference Room (Room 201), San Francisco City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett (on Van Ness Avenue, between Grove and McAllister Streets.)

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GAY Life

sf aids foundation

SFPD shake-up

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responsible.

"This should have never gone this far," Leal said. "The buck stops at the mayor's office. It's very sad news and I'm hoping things are quickly resolved. It does raise real questions of leadership and accountability."

"The sad thing is that public trust has been shaken," Leal said, adding that city officials should do everything possible to assure police rank and file members that public trust can be restored.

Andrea Shorter, an out lesbian who used to serve on the City College Board of Trustees and now works at the Center for Juvenile and Criminal Justice, said that while there is much drama swirling around the police department, the focus should remain on police accountability.

"It's unfortunate that it's such

a sensational arena right now, but mostly, I'm concerned with the conversations and processes taking place toward police accountability," she said. "If this is what it takes, then this is what it takes."

Transgender activist and Veterans Affairs Commissioner Veronika Cauley said the whole situation is "tragic." She noted that she had interacted with several of the indicted command staff members over the course of her work, and that Fagan Sr. was a panelist at a transgender legal panel the night of November 20.

"Alex [Fagan Sr.] is a good man, and a friend of mine, and a friend to the transgender community," Cauley stated. "I can't imagine his son [Fagan Jr.] falling 'so far from the tree.'"

Cauley also had praise for Sanders, Corrales, and Suhr.

"I am sorry that this has happened, but the law is the law, and it must be observed by everyone, especially by those who are sworn

to uphold it," Cauley added.

Shawna Virago, of Community United Against Violence, told the B.A.R. that the agency welcomed the grand jury process.

"I think CUAV took all the allegations of police misconduct seriously from the beginning, especially since one of the alleged victims [Jordan] is from the LGBT community. We think the grand jury process in this case is the fairest way to have justice here."

While Jordan was not involved in the November 20 incident on Union Street, he claims he was attacked by Fagan Jr. and another officer during a separate incident last July. Jordan has since filed a multi-million lawsuit against the city.

Virago also had good words for Fong taking over the department. "She does have a good reputation and is considered to be a police officer with a lot of integrity."

Al Murray, the assistant district attorney who brought the case to the grand jury, is also considered a person of integrity, she added.

"It's hard for a lot of us in the community to understand the level this has reached in the police department," Virago added.

Robert Haaland, president of the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club, said that he does have concerns about the department, particularly regarding planned antiwar demonstrations as the country moves toward likely war against Iraq.

Haaland, who is transgender, last month won a \$107,000 settlement against the city for police misconduct when he was allegedly groped and mistreated by officers after he was arrested during a 1999 demonstration.

"It's pretty intense," Haaland said of the developments over the past several days. "My concern is the relationship between police and antiwar protesters over the next couple of months. My hope is that they have liaisons at the marches. Some thought needs to be given to how police deal with protesters."

"I think a lot of the rank and file officers are freaked out. Human instinct is to protect those close to you but at the same time there has to be a level of professionalism," he said.

Rich Kowalewski, co-chair of the Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club, said, "This command has not treated women very well. Lesbian officers don't like this command."

Former Pride board member Edward Goehring had positive things to say about Fong.

"I spent many late night watches with Heather Fong during the years I was a director of LGBT Pride and the San Francisco Fourth of July celebration. I know her pretty well and I believe that she is squeaky clean ethically," Goehring said in an e-mail. "I have also found her to be utterly devoid of the kind of puffed-up self-importance that I've encountered in many senior police commanders over the past 37 years, across seven states and a province or two."

Bob Nelson, executive director of Dolores Street Community Services, also had praise for Fong.

"Heather Fong is a friend of the community," Nelson said. "I know her to be an honest and caring person with a sincere desire to see the best be done for San Francisco. It is personally gratifying for me to

know that she is leading the department during this trying time."

At Monday's Police Commission meeting, gay activist Frederick Hobson said he supports the chief and noted none of the indicted officers have been convicted of anything.

"We have a good police department," Hobson said.

Civil suit

The civil suit filed recently by Jordan, 27, alleges that Fagan Jr. and another officer, Jason Kristal, broke his ribs and punctured his lung when he was arrested on July 23, 2002 in the parking lot of Toys R Us on Geary Boulevard. Jordan also claims the officers called him "faggot" while they arrested him. Jordan spent three months in jail before he was granted diversion on a misdemeanor charge of resisting arrest.

Harriet Ross, Jordan's attorney, told the B.A.R. on Tuesday, March 4 that she was not surprised by the grand jury indictments of the three rookie officers, Fagan Jr., Tonsing, and Lee.

"I was quite shocked about the indictments of the chief and his management staff," Ross said.

As for Jordan's civil suit, Ross said that the officers have 30 days to respond to the complaint and following that, discovery likely will begin.

"I'm ready to go," Ross said.

"I want to see that justice is done," Jordan said in a statement released by Ross.

Ross added that while Jordan wishes no ill will toward the officers involved in his alleged complaint, he did have to "go to jail for three months for nothing." ▼

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Danville gay bar

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San Ramon Valley Boulevard. At first a karaoke machine was used to draw in patrons but that quickly was replaced by theme nights, such as Martini Crazy Cosmo Madness Tuesdays (all martinis and cosmos are \$3) or College Wednesdays (students with college IDs get half off drinks).

"Everyone said you have to have karaoke. At first it was great and then it got slowly worse and worse," said Vaughn. "I just don't think karaoke is where it is at. So every night we try to do something different."

The theme nights are catching on, and weekend nights pull in both gay men and lesbians to hear DJ Michael Velez on Friday nights or DJ Matthew Baker (of the Cafe and formerly JR's in Walnut Creek) spin on Saturday nights. Velez also hosts monthly theme parties on Sundays and the bar is

looking for other promoters to host special events. Last weekend, the bar launched the first of what it hopes will become regular drag shows on the first Sunday of each month.

"We are hoping it will be a really big hit and are hoping to get drag kings as well," said Vaughn, who noted the first show pulled in more than 30 people.

The bar has also hosted comedy nights, first with Scott Capurro, a regular guest on radio station Alice's morning show, and then with Shann Carr, a regular performer on Olivia Cruises and in Guerneville.

"They packed the house," said Vaughn.

Despite the area's reputation as being more conservative—the Republican Party has a powerful presence in the county—the women said the town has welcomed them with open arms. While some patrons have complained about police being aggressive in pulling over people leaving

the bar, the women said it isn't because they are targeting a gay bar. The police, they said, are just vigilant about drunk driving.

"The fact is even Danville's mayor was here when we first opened to say welcome," said Woo. "The people here are very open-minded. A lot of people in Danville and Contra Costa County are well-educated and well-traveled."

And while running the bar hasn't been a struggle, they said the business does have its ups and downs. As long as the local community continues to support the bar, they intend to keep Bleu open for business.

"We have done really well when you consider we just opened up in a recession, in wintertime, when we are going to war," said Vaughn. "But I guess people drink one way or another."

For more information about the bar, visit its Web site at www.bleu.us or call (925) 831-0963. ▼

OutRight

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health arguments of its supporters. Further, the state's brief admirably concedes that the law is unlikely to discourage gays from actually having sex. This undercuts the arguments of those supporting the state who argue the law is needed to prevent calamitous public-health consequences.

For a law to be constitutional under even minimal standards, it must be (1) rationally related (2) to a legitimate state purpose. While protecting public health is a legitimate state purpose, there is no evidence that the Texas sodomy law bears any relationship (rational or otherwise) to that purpose.

Perhaps recognizing the weaknesses of these hysterical public-

health arguments, the religious-conservative briefs warn the court that the real danger of striking down sodomy laws is where it might lead.

Let consenting gay adults have sex in the privacy of their homes, they say, and the next thing you know we'll have legalized prostitution, adultery, necrophilia, bestiality, child pornography, incest, and pedophilia. (Texas law already allows adultery and bestiality, so strike those from the slippery slope.) Each of these is distinguishable from consensual same-sex sodomy between adults in terms of the actual harm they cause and/or a lack of true consent involved in the acts, but they aren't really the focus of social conservatives' concern.

The real fear, which dominates these briefs (though, again, conspicuously not the Texas brief it-

self), is that we're headed for same-sex marriage. According to one typical line of reasoning: "To accept the argument [against the Texas law] is to overthrow the legal institution of marriage as exclusively a union between one man and one woman."

Huh? Little explanation is given for this non sequitur; the briefs read almost like early draft arguments against an expected future challenge to the marriage laws, not a present challenge to sodomy laws. If I gave any of my first-year law students the task of writing an opinion holding sodomy laws unconstitutional but leaving marriage laws intact, I'm confident every one of them could do it.

The religious right is losing the cultural, political, and legal battle over gay equality. The increasing desperation of their arguments proves it. ▼

OBITUARIES

M. Graham Black



Black, M. Graham, 86, passed away in San Francisco on February 25, 2003. He is survived by his partner of 57 years, John A. Pearson.

Born in Arkansas, he graduated with honors from the University of Arkansas in 1938 and later attended Harvard Business School. He served with distinction in the United States Navy from 1942 until 1947 and was awarded six battle stars and a Presidential Unit Citation.

He performed with the Martha Graham Dance Company in 1946 and 1947. He then was an account executive with three leading advertising agencies from 1948 until 1966. He had moved to San Francisco in 1950.

From 1966 to 1973, he worked with the Veterans Administration, receiving

two outstanding performance ratings for work with disadvantaged veterans.

To all who knew him, he was truly a gentleman. Memory donations may be made to his beloved Episcopal Church, St. Mary the Virgin, 2325 Union Street, San Francisco, CA 94123.

Jerold David Norman

Jerold David Norman died after a long battle with AIDS on October 27, 2002 at St. Luke's Hospital in San Francisco. He was born May 24, 1944 in Yakima, Washington. His father was Lt. (jg) John Jerold Norman, then on wartime active duty with the United States Naval Reserve. His mother was Judith McWhorter Goodwin of Redmond, Washington. He was baptized into the Christian faith at Trinity Episcopal Church in Portland, Oregon in 1948.

Mr. Norman grew up in Portland where he graduated from Wilson High School, Class of 1962. He spent the last 30 years of his life in the Bay Area and

San Francisco where he worked as an automobile mechanic. He is survived by his mother, Judith McWhorter Goodwin of Redmond, Washington and by his sister Rebecca Campbell Nelson of Boring, Oregon. His ashes were placed in the San Francisco Columbarium. It was his request that any remembrance be made to the San Francisco AIDS Memorial Church of San Francisco, a member of its choir and occasional keyboardist.

Jim "Muffin" Stevens



Celebrating his 50th birthday aboard an RSVP Cruise in the Caribbean, Jim's soul departed Earth at sea, on Monday, February 24th, 2003. He was truly where he wanted to be as this was his

favorite way to vacation, and parted this life peacefully. Suffering the long term effects of liver disease, Jim had been on the liver transplant list for over a year. He had worked 25 years at Grainger Commercial Supply, was a Trekker with the SF FrontRunners as well as with the Star Trek universe. Muffin was a long time member of Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco, a member of its choir and occasional keyboardist.

Jim S. provided major support for many suffering addicts for over 18 years in Narcotics Anonymous. He loved everything about this particular recovery program, and was one of the founding members of its Rainbow Convention, an LGBT gift to the fellowship.

Jim leaves behind his mother and sister, Dorothy and Barbara Stevens of Belview, MN and hundreds of friends. A celebration of his life will be held Sunday, March 9th, 3:30 p.m. at Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St., San Francisco. Donations may be made in his honor to the Metropolitan Community Foundation, 150 Eureka St., San Francisco, CA 94114.

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization – and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

ADAP in crisis

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more than \$100 million. In fiscal year 2004, it is estimated the government needs to add \$200 million to the ADAP program, yet the president is only asking for \$100 million.

"That is useful for us as a baseline in dealing with Congress. The president has prioritized ADAP for an increase," said Hopkins. "That will be helpful as we move forward in Congress. It sends a signal that the administration has admitted there is a crisis."

Arnold predicted the new year will be particularly challenging for ADAPs in California, Florida and Texas.

"In California, if the federal government doesn't put up the money, then the state has to put up the money. If the state doesn't, a whole lot of people in California are definitely in trouble," said Arnold.

Lower prices needed

Advocacy groups are not the only ones coordinating their lobbying efforts and combining their political muscle on behalf of the ADAP programs. In addition, the directors of six state ADAPs, including California, recently announced they are banding together to petition the pharmaceutical companies to lower their prices for AIDS medications and to broker better deals from such drug manufacturing heavyweights as GlaxoSmithKline, Roche, Pfizer and Abbott Laboratories.

As reported last month in the *Wall Street Journal*, officials from California, New York, Texas, Florida, Illinois, and New Jersey have jointly entered into price negotiations with the drug companies. The new initiative will focus on securing price concessions not just for new drugs, which previous negotiations had focused on, but for all AIDS drugs. The state officials hope they can secure lower drug prices for all 56 of the nation's ADAPs, according to the *Journal*.

Montgomery said that historically, the state AIDS directors have worked well with the pharmaceutical companies in finding solutions beneficial to both sides. He said he is confident the two groups will once again be able to broker a deal.

"I am encouraged that they are coming to meet with us and am confident we will have some success in getting price reductions," he told the *Bay Area Reporter* this week. "I really think we need to do anything we can to make sure no one in the United States who needs to have access to HIV medicines doesn't have access. Certainly in California, we don't want people to not have access to these

medications."

March meeting

The states will be meeting with six drug companies during the week of March 17 and expect to arrange meetings with two other firms. The move comes at a time when ADAPs across the country are bracing for the introduction of a new medication called Fuzeeon that could cost upwards of \$30,000 per patient per year in the United States. Roche earlier last month announced that Fuzeeon will cost more than \$20,000 per year in Europe, more than double the price of the most expensive AIDS treatments on the market.

Roche is already involved in separate discussions with state officials and AIDS groups over the price of the drug, which is expected to get Food and Drug Administration approval within weeks. "We'll be working to put together the best package [of prices] for all payers," a Roche spokesperson told the *Journal*.

But ADAP administrators and AIDS advocates remain nervous about what impact the drug's price will have on already cash-strapped state programs. Despite a price freeze last year by several drug manufacturers, budget cuts and the increasing number of people needing assistance have forced many states to restrict eligibility or to create waiting lists for the programs.

Officials at SFAF said the new bargaining agreement between the six states is absolutely essential for addressing the ADAP shortfall next year in California.

"The efforts of ADAP directors in the biggest states to come together probably is the best clout we have to encourage the drug companies to do something on the issue," said Dana Van Gorder, the foundation's director of state and local affairs. "All ADAPs across the country have seen significant increases in cost of these drugs over the last several years. As government funding for these programs becomes scarce, it is essential we look at pricing of all drugs in the formulary, not just Fuzeeon."

CA waiting list?

While California has yet to institute a waiting list, the state is on the precipice of having to do so. To cover the increasing costs of the state program, it is estimated the state needs \$20 million in additional spending each year to keep pace with enrollment and costs. Once Fuzeeon is added to the drug mix, it is assumed another \$5 million will be needed to meet demand for the medication.

However, Governor Gray Davis only budgeted an additional \$1.8 million to meet that \$25 million estimate. And to recover

another \$7.2 million for ADAP, the Davis administration has floated the idea of instituting a copayment system where people in ADAP would be required to spend anywhere from \$25 to \$50 per prescription.

On average, that could mean \$120 up to \$200 a month people in ADAP will need to pay in order to receive their meds. That, AIDS advocates contend, will be financially crippling for low-income people living with HIV.

"That is a substantial amount of money for people on limited incomes," said Van Gorder. "Most ADAP clients are earning well below \$20,000 a year and living in an extremely expensive state."

It would also make California the first state ADAP to create a copay requirement, and that is a "slippery slope" said SFAF's Hopkins, who fears other state ADAPs could follow suit.

The governor has also asked the Legislature to change the laws surrounding the ADAP program to allow the state to create a waiting list. Currently, state statutes governing ADAP require everyone eligible for the program be given assistance.

"All of our advocacy efforts right now are aimed at coming up with a proposal for the administration that would fully fund the program without any copayments and without establishing a waiting list," said Van Gorder. "We believe it is possible to achieve that with money from the federal government. Our ability to do that goes back to the success of ADAP directors in negotiating either better pricing or increased rebates for drugs ADAP is paying for."

While the measures are unwelcome steps for the AIDS community, Montgomery said the people who have the least resources will still have access to their medications.

"I think I would say the governor and the Office of AIDS are very supportive of ADAP and want to make sure it is operating on a fiscally sound basis," he said. "But when you got a state budget that has a \$35 billion deficit, how do you fund a program in a way that will continue to provide the same service and experience the same growth every year without denying services to people?"

Some options the Office of AIDS is currently weighing include removing some drugs from the ADAP formulary, or the state may decide to only cover generic drugs where appropriate. Or the state may restrict access to more expensive drugs such as Fuzeeon.

Nothing has yet to be decided, and Montgomery said "those judgments we would prefer physicians to make and we will be turning to them for advice." ▼

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Wheely big show

by Jim Provenzano

Cyclists in Sydney got a warm welcome and a well-run event at Centennial Park, despite a few reroutes to avoid potholes.

Among the many competitors in the four events at Gay Games VI (Individual Time Trial, Circuit Road Race, Team Time Trial and Criterion Mountain Race), several Bay Area riders were part of the informal collective known as the Gutterbunnies. They're also part of the growing number of cyclists participating in local AIDS ride fundraisers.

Bunny hop

Cathy Johnson competed in three events as an original Gutterbunny, which had a "girls" and "boys" team. The Gutterbunnies organize fundraising and training rides. Although composed of Californians, they drafted a few others to fill out their ranks at the Games.

"We had a few honorary bunnies for the girls," Johnson said, "with four people per team; one from Israel and one from Australia. The boys recruited a guy from Chicago."

Johnson said she enjoyed her fourth Games, mentioning that knee injuries ended her running career.

"As it turns out, you can do it with three people, but it's an advantage to have four people, in case of a drop-out or mechanical problems," she said.

In prior Games, Johnson competed in track and field in relay events. This was her first time competing in cycling.

"I didn't know what it would be like," she said. "If it would have the same collective spirit. People were friendly and interested."

Cycling events were divided between licensed and unlicensed riders. Team and individual races were originally a 15-kilometer race of two laps, but changes made it more like 13k, or eight miles, Johnson said.

"They changed some things based on differences for men or women, age and which event it was," said Johnson. A huge pothole changed the route at the last minute.

Over 250 people signed up in all cycling events, including mountain biking. The Gutterbunnies took medals in the 30-35 women's categories, and in the 50-60 age group in men's races.

Mariam Garfinkel took a silver in Individual Time Trial, a gold in the Circuit Road Race in the 45-49 age group, and a bronze in Team Time Trials. Johnson won a silver medal in the Individual Time Trial and Circuit Road Race, and a bronze in the Team Trial, both in the 50-54 age group.

All cyclists shipped their bikes easily, adding them as checked baggage.

"It's certainly not like when I was running, and only had to pack a singlet," joked Johnson. "None of us had ever shipped bikes, so we lined up a bike shop in Sydney to help us put them back together."

Riding on the left side of the road, and doing it while jet-lagged, led to a few adjustments.

"We wanted to keep riding," said Johnson, so the cyclists agreed to meet at Centennial Park for some warm-up laps. But on her way there, she made a right turn, forgetting Australia's English driving routes, barely missing an oncoming car.

Johnson, now more comfortably on the right hand side of the road, is training for AIDS LifeCycle 2, which trails from San Francisco to Los Angeles June 8-14.

Gutterboy

Men, most being in their 30s, were in more competitive levels, and finished fast, but without medals.

Dominic Campodonico placed high in all of his races, including the unlicensed Individual Time Trial (sixth place in the 30-34 age group), fifth place in the Circuit Road Race, and sixth place with the Gutterbunny Boys team in Team Time Trial. He also got his personal best times in most events.

He said that most of his races were spent jockeying for position "with some guys from South Africa, and the Netherlands. The three of us were relatively competitive."

Like others, Campodonico's preferred wheeled stomping grounds include the Marin Headlands and the Tiburon Loop. While training for the Games, he trekked the Canada Road in Woodside, which is closed for cyclists on Sundays.

Along with also doing the AIDS LifeCycle 2, Campodonico will ride from Seattle to Portland ride on July 12 in a different, non-fundraising trek.

Not that this ride will show he's slacking, since he's already raised between \$30-40,000 with the Gutterbunnies.

He even did some outreach while down under. "I mentioned the LifeCycle to other people from other countries, and they were interested."

Tour de France

Nathalie Pelletier and her partner Martine Riou were among the international cyclists. The couple shared the distinction of being the only Games competitors from Toulouse, France. They also racked up seven medals between them (four gold, three silver), and happily wore the medals along with the French flag in Olympic



Gutterbunnies down under: Standing from left, Miriam Garfinkel, Dominic Campodonico, Brian Conaghan, Cathy Johnson, Robert Quon, Julie Frank. Kneeling from left, Chris Roe, Jerome Thomere.

Park while en route to watch some diving events.

"Our team also had two girls from Canberra, and one from Ottawa, Canada," said Pelletier, proving the global friendship exhibited at the Games. "We make a very good team."

She noted that competing was easier in Sydney, while European races are more competitive. Pelletier began cycling as an 18-year-old, while Riou only started in 2001. They trained together in their home countryside.

They also found time to see figure skating, volleyball, and aerobics. "It was fabulous. Very beautiful guys and women."

Like many Games participants (Pelletier also competed in cycling in Amsterdam in 1998), they enjoyed the Opening Ceremonies, where they marched with over 150 Parisians, dozens more from Marseilles and Bordeaux, and about 30 other French compatriots. They hope to compete in Montreal in 2006 ("Bien sur!"), along with an even larger contingent of French athletes.

Quontastic

Robert Quon competed in three events (all except Criterion). He finished fourth in Circuit Road Race and fifth in Individual Time Trial in the 30-34 division. He was the top U.S. finisher in those divisions.

"Nobody from our country beat me," he said with astonished pride. "I didn't realize it until afterward. That truly gave me the idea that this was an international competition. In Australia, pretty much everybody was speaking English. But there were people from South Africa, all over the world."

Quon only started cycling four years ago to fundraise for an AIDS ride at the insistence of a friend. The doctor of internal medicine at Kaiser Permanente in Vallejo thought his friend meant that he should volunteer for the medical crew.

"But then he convinced me to ride. At first I said, 'Are you crazy?' I hadn't been on a bike since I was 16."

Quon tried doing the Tiburon Loop, and had to take the ferry home. "I had more muscles hurt than I thought existed in my body."

Since then, Quon has seen a total transformation in his life. This year will be his fifth AIDS ride. He started out with what he thought would be his bike for life, a \$400 hybrid. But for Sydney's Games, he splurged on a \$7,000 custom bike. "To me, it was worth it."

Many local cyclists made the shift from being a participant in

the Pallotta Teamworks rides to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's LifeCycle. After a rancorous battle and several lawsuits, the AIDS foundation, like several other nonprofits, took it upon itself to create its own ride. Pallotta and his various entities eventually claimed to have closed their businesses, but continue to contract with the Avon Breast Cancer Walks for a steep fee.

Quon sees the AIDS foundation's creation of LifeCycle, now in its second year, as "a positive move," he said, "putting the fiscal responsibility where it works better. When you watch your own books, you're gonna control your finances. The first year was a building year. It took a year to regroup and strategize, and I think they did an excellent job at that. It's only going to grow until we get back to raising millions of dollars."

The now self-described "gear-head" assures novices that while, "It's a daunting thing to say you're going to ride your bike to L.A.," it has proven worth the effort.

"As accomplished a cyclist as I've become, it's still not easy," Quon said. "You can get hurt. It's a lot of time to train, to fundraise and do every part of it to get you there."

At one point, exhausted and sore during a ride, he pulled over in frustration, until a member of Positive Pedalers rode by him.

"It really dawned on me: 'Why are you here?' Not to bitch and moan. You're here for a reason, and the person that passed you by was the reason."

Positively

One of those Positive Pedalers is Bob Katz, who competed in the Men's Over 40 Circuit Road Race. This was his first competitive event.

Having done three AIDS Rides, and the LifeCycle last year, Katz was among the people who wrote a letter to AIDS foundation asking that "something be done" about the rides, even before the controversies over Pallotta reached a high point.

He hopes that the LifeCycle will improve. "But as much as anything, it's economic," Katz said. "Some new rides hand over 100 percent of proceeds. Registration costs have even been lowered." Katz will also ride in the annual Ron Wilmot Ride in May.

At Sydney, he wore his Positive Pedalers jersey. "We like to have a presence at every AIDS-related cycling event."

Katz came in fifth out of five in his age group (50-54), but with several younger competitors behind him, he said he felt good

next page ►

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COMMUNITY NEWS

B&B Corps donation to Open Hand



COURTESY STEVE NG

Members of the California B&B Corps Northern California Division last month presented a check to H. Frank Landin II and Devesh Khatri of Project Open Hand. Corps member Steve Ng said that more than \$2,500 was raised at the corps' annual "SF Roll Call" event, held during the 2002 Folsom Street Fair.

Mission Station

◀ page 11

this job anymore. People know their rights," he said. "You're getting a more educated group right now. But 60 percent have less than 10 years on the force."

Limbirt also talked about the changing role of gay people in the police department. "Things are changing, but faster for women," he said. "For a heterosexual man, it's easier for them to accept a lesbian, instead of a gay man."

According to Limbirt, there are only about 27 or 28 gay male cops who are out about their sexuality in the city's 2,300-person force.

About 160 police are members of the San Francisco Police Officers' Pride Alliance, according to Sergeant Inspector Lea Militello, the organization's co-chair.

"In the late 1980s and 1990s we lost over 80 percent of our gay men to AIDS. We have never recovered from those numbers. The highest rank that a gay man has achieved is sergeant inspector. There are two at that rank, one inspector, and two sergeants," Militello said.

But the highest rank achieved by any gay or lesbian officer is held

by Deputy Chief Mindy Pengel. She is San Francisco's highest-ranking queer cop and was head of investigations under former Chief Fred Lau. She is one of only three deputy chiefs not touched by the recent charges.

When Sanders took over as chief, Pengel was, according to Militello and the Pride Alliance's Inspector Judy Pursell, threatened with demotion or forced retirement in a command shakeup.

"If they had their way, I'd be gone now," said Pengel at the time. Instead, after an intense lobbying effort by gay police, politicians and other supporters, Sanders left her on as one of five deputy chiefs but transferred her from investigations to the airport, whose police force Pengel had helped merge with the SFPD.

Pursell, who had been head of homicide for the department, was transferred out to Bayview Station, one of the department's least desirable postings.

So the queer cops are not happy with the command structure of the department under Sanders. "I strongly support this new command staff," said Militello at Monday's Police Commission hearing. "They have a big job to do," she said.

The indicted police officers say that the charges against them are political and completely unfounded.

"In the most outrageous abuse of a district attorney's powers in history," wrote Corrales in a memo to his staff just prior to his suspension, "the current grand jury has indicted me. I look forward to returning here when this disgraceful manipulation of the grand jury process is exposed."

And some of the indicted cops have strong support in the force, and in the community.

"He's probably one of the best bosses I've ever had. He's very supportive," Militello said of Corrales.

"Greg Suhr is an excellent cop," said Supervisor Bevan Duffy. "It's an opportunistic situation for those that want to take down the department."

Suhr used to run Mission Station. He was later promoted to deputy chief and was one of those indicted.

But rookie gay cop Albert Esparza, who joined the force last April, said that he worries that "people will be looking at us in a very negative way. That's sad."

"Every police department has its share of problematic officers," he said. "But I still do my job the way I was trained." ▼

PRC director

◀ page 3

support to middle school students growing up in some of Los Angeles' most challenging and underserved communities.

Throughout his tenure, he increased the revenue budget by 95 percent and grew the TeamWorks program by 25 percent. Before assuming that position, Andrews served as executive director of Kids n' U Inc., a nonprofit youth organization that administered culinary and self-esteem programs to high school students in New York City. Under his administration, the organization grew 45 percent. In addition, he raised significant community awareness through highly publicized fundraisers.

As he settles into his new role, Andrews said he wants to expand PRC's scope and work into the

city's minority communities, where HIV and AIDS is also devastating those populations.

"I want to broaden our mission and have it not represented solely in the gay community," he said. "I want to make sure women and more minorities are made known of our resources so they can take advantage of them."

It is just part of his strategy for raising money and securing funds for the agency, Andrews said. By diversifying PRC's client base, he said the agency would be able to qualify for a wider array of revenue streams. He also wants to expand the agency's reputation among corporate employers.

"A lot of the big companies should know about the personnel resources we supply," he said. "PRC continues to be a pioneer in the services it provides and we want to stay on the front line of that."

Andrews holds a bachelor of

arts degree in psychology from Pennsylvania State University, and a masters of science degree in industrial/organizational psychology from George Washington University. He recently relocated from Los Angeles where he was an active community member including serving four years as a volunteer for God's Love We Deliver, a provider of meals for people living with HIV/AIDS.

He said he is excited about the new challenge he faces in San Francisco. As he works with PRC's board to develop a strategic plan for the agency, he said he is mindful that the next 12 months will also be a challenging time for the organization.

"The key word around here is we are cautiously optimistic," said Andrews. "You cannot make goals in a vacuum. I am very mindful it will be awhile before the downturn turns around." ▼

Sports Complex

◀ previous page

Following the Games, he visited "pretty much everywhere" in scenic New Zealand. Locally, he's a training ride leader for LifeCycle, with groups riding mostly to Marin.

"We're hoping to branch out to East Bay each weekend," Katz said. "In April we'll go from Pleasant Hill to Pinole, and into Sonoma County. One of the legacies of the AIDS Rides is a huge archive of training ride routes, which have been fed into the LifeCycle library."

Despite the hills and distance, Katz enjoys riding more than ever.

"You get to a point where it doesn't seem to get any more difficult."

Trail mix

Despite the dangers of urban riding, San Francisco is becoming more cyclist-friendly, mostly due to the work of the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition (www.sfbike.org).

Visit the Gutterbunnies at www.gutterbunnies.com.

The last Friday of each month, Critical Mass enjoys taking the streets from the Embarcadero to raise awareness for cyclists as traffic, not traffic-blockers (www.critical-mass.org).

At each LGBT Pride Parade, Mikes on Bikes provides a color-

ful contingent of wheeled cuties (www.sfpdride.org).

Positive Pedalers provides support and visibility for HIV-positive cyclists (www.posped.org).

Visit the Cyclist Expo, March 9 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. in Golden Gate Park, Hall of Flowers at 9th and Lincoln avenues. Learn about maintenance, safety and meet other wheeled pals.

To find out about SFAF's LifeCycle 2, the Bike Expo, and other events, visit www.sfaf.org or www.aidslifecycle.org. ▼

My 1999 AIDS Ride articles and more abide at www.sportscomplex.org.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE 0264424-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: LaDove Associates. 1865 Sacramento Street, Suite #1, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Brett LaDove. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/10/2003.

FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264262-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Chal House. 608 Geary Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by a limited liability company signed Rajendra C. Patel, manager. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 1, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/04/2003.

FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264143-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Embassy CES. 1462 Pine Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Rebecca Patterson, treasurer. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/12/2003.

FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264320-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Stephen Gilts & Inter Trade. 1848 Newhall Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an individual signed Shaohua Gao. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 06, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/06/2003.

FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264130-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: MC Investment Of San Francisco. 40 Darrell Place #2, San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by an individual signed Marianne C. Frank. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/30/2003.

FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264393-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Just For Jesus Ministries. 480 Ellis Street #428, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed Nathaniel Cherry. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 10, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/10/2003.

FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264070-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: J.W.A. Consulting. 1766 35th Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by a general Partnership signed Noah Furman and Glenn Zisholtz. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/28/2003.

FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 2003

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 0246176

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Chai House. Located at: 608 Geary Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business was conducted by an individual signed Kalpesh P. Patel. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: January 21, 2001.

FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 2003

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 254619

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: usdirectmailing.com. Located at: 574-39th Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94121. This business was conducted by co-partners signed Wong Wai and Gerald Espanda. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: January 28, 2002.

FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264491-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Hartle Media Ventures LLC. 59 Grant Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94108. This business is conducted by a husband and wife signed Tom Hartle and Heather Hartle. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 1, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/12/2003.

FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 13, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264557-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Peanuts. 101 Spear Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94105. This business is conducted by an individual signed Vena Shrivayaratana. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/13/2003.

FEB. 20, 27, MAR. 6, 13, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264526-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: CMG Designs San Francisco. 428 8th Street #101, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Cesar M. Guerra. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/13/2003.

FEB. 20, 27, MAR. 6, 13, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264486-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Golden Gun Investigations. 1320 18th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by an individual signed Richard Benjamin. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 12, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/12/2003.

FEB. 20, 27, MAR. 6, 13, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264473-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Action Packed Studios. 64 Bonview Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110-5105. This business is conducted by an individual signed David Brian Hempling. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 02, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/11/2003.

FEB. 20, 27, MAR. 6, 13, 2003

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: Ragbora Kuldeep Singh. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 3501 Mission Street San Francisco, Ca. 94110. Type of license Applied for:

41-ON- SALE BEER AND WINE

EATING PLACE

FEB. 20, MAR. 6, 13, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264277-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Saleema Boutique Old And New. 3130 San Bruno Avenue San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by husband and wife signed Saleema A. Muhammad and Vincent A. Jones. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 05, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/05/2003.

FEB. 27, MAR. 6, 13, 20, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264582-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Close Encounters Research. 124 Duboce Avenue San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jeff Freedman. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/14/2003.

FEB. 27, MAR. 6, 13, 20, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264245-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: The Digital Edge. 100 First Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94105. This business is conducted by a limited liability company signed Joseph Burton- Authorized person. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 4, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/04/2003.

FEB. 27, MAR. 6, 13, 20, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264658-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Q Beauty. 883 Geary Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Kelly Le. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 23, 1998. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/19/2003.

FEB. 27, MAR. 6, 13, 20, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264738-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Soc Loc. 101, Madrone Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94127. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Steven Anton, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on June 13, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/21/2003.

FEB. 27, MAR. 6, 13, 20, 2003

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LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE 0264894-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Mela Tandoori Kitchen, 417 O'Farrell Street San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by a limited liability company signed Sohail Subedar, CEO/pres. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/27/2003.

MAR. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264790-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Contreras Design, 1093 Dolores Street #3, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Steven P. Contreras. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 24, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/24/2003.

MAR. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264927-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Lee & Lee Management & Associates, 2543 Clement Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94121. This business is conducted by a limited liability company signed Helen Lee and Sui Lee. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 1, 1978. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/28/2003.

MAR. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264820-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Frank's Market And Liquor, 4799 A Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed Yehya Abdoulla Hassan. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 1, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/25/2003.

MAR. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264913-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Bob Vickery Enterprises, 769 Cole Street #2, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Clinton T. Seiter. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/27/2003.

MAR. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003



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VACANCY NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 54974, California Government Code, notice is hereby given of the following unscheduled vacancies. Interested persons may obtain an application form from the Clerk of the Rules Committee, 1 D. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco, CA 94102-4689. Completed applications should be submitted to the Clerk of the Board. All applicants must be residents of San Francisco, unless otherwise stated. Additional information and an application may be obtained by accessing the Cityweb site: www.sfgov.org/bdsuprvs

Please Note: Depending upon the posting date, some vacancies may have already been filled. To determine if vacancies for this Board/Committee/Commission or Task Force are still available please call the Rules Committee Clerk at 554-5184.

Veterans Affairs Commission - Replaces all Previous Notices

The Veterans Affairs Commission consists of a total of fifteen members, eleven of whom are appointed by the Board of Supervisors and four of whom are appointed by the Mayor as follows: Of the fifteen members, at least three must be women veterans and one person who served in the Armed Forces of the United States and is suffering under a physical disability arising from that service, in accordance with the definitions applied in such cases by the Veterans' Administration.

The Commission shall advise directly the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors on all matters affecting veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States of America, on the problems, interests and needs of veterans who are residents of San Francisco and on the coordination of economic development, health care, and social services programs.

Vacant seat 4, must be an at-large appointment for a term ending 1/15/04.
Vacant seat 10, must be an at-large appointment for a term ending 1/15/06.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS: MISSION BAY OPEN SPACE MANAGEMENT

The San Francisco Redevelopment Agency is seeking property management teams to provide comprehensive management, maintenance, landscaping, and security for the public open space parcels in the Mission Bay North and South Redevelopment Areas.

A pre-submittal meeting for prospective contractors will be held on March 19, 2003 at 2:00 PM at Casellius Mission Bay Visitors Center, 255 Channel Street. The complete Request for Qualifications (RFQ) packet is available on-line at <http://www.sfgov.org/dra> or please contact:

Freda Winn, Administrative Secretary, San Francisco Redevelopment Agency
770 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102
Tel. (415) 749-2497

Responses are due by 3:00 PM, April 9, 2003

REVISED REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR BAYVIEW TOWN CENTER

The Bayview Town Center Task Force of San Francisco (a joint effort of the Mayor's Office of Economic Development, San Francisco Redevelopment Agency, San Francisco Unified School District, Bayview Opera House, San Francisco Arts Commission, San Francisco Public Library, and Recreation and Parks Department) is seeking Statements of Qualifications from firms that are experienced with types of mixed-use, multi-purpose, arts and culture educational institutions to develop a conceptual design of the Bayview Town Center project.

To obtain a REVISED copy of the RFQ, please contact Deborah Lao at Deborah.Lao@sfgov.org or 415-554-6649. Deadline for responses to the RFQ has been extended to March 14, 2003 4:00 PM.

The City and County of San Francisco encourages public outreach. Articles are translated into several languages to provide better public access. The newspaper makes every effort to translate the articles of general interest correctly. No liability is assumed by the City and County of San Francisco or the newspapers for errors and omissions.

STATEMENT FILE 0264540-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: #1 Mattress Discounters, 1350 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by a limited liability company signed Joe Morano/Facilities Manager. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on December 6, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/13/2003.
FEB. 27, MAR. 6, 13, 20, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264752-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Judy's Cafe, 2269 Chestnut Street #248, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by an individual signed Charles Bain. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on October 12, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/24/2003.
FEB. 27, MAR. 6, 13, 20, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264732-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Pronto Electric, 21 Flood Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94131. This business is conducted by an individual signed Marco Vinicio Moran. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 15, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/21/2003.
FEB. 27, MAR. 6, 13, 20, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0264829-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: The Auditorium Liquor, 1561 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94115. This business is conducted by an individual signed Alex Kim. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/25/2003.
FEB. 27, MAR. 6, 13, 20, 2003

NOTICE OF PETITION TO
ADMINISTER ESTATE: CASE
NUMBER:

PES-03-284380

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of Alma Pacheco (decedent). A Petition for Probate has been filed by V. Kathy Holland Smith, in the Superior Court of California, San Francisco Superior Court, 400 McAllister Street, Room 204, San Francisco, Ca. 94102-4514. County of San Francisco. The Petition for Probate requests that V. Kathy Holland Smith be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The Petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. A Hearing on the petition will be held on: March 19, 2003 in the Probate Department at 9:00am, room #204, 400 McAllister Street San Francisco, Ca. 94102-4514. IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objection with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided. Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for petitioner is: Thomas M. Schneider, BAR # 141025. Address: 3200 Inland Empire Blvd. #235 Ontario, Ca. 91764. (909) 484-2002. The Petitioner is: V. Kathy Holland Smith.
MARCH 6, 13, 20, 2003

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND
FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN
FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC-
03540598

In the Matter of the Application of Laura Gay Rauch For change of Name. The application of Laura Gay Rauch for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Laura Gay Rauch has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Laura Rauch Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 21st day of April at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
MAR. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003

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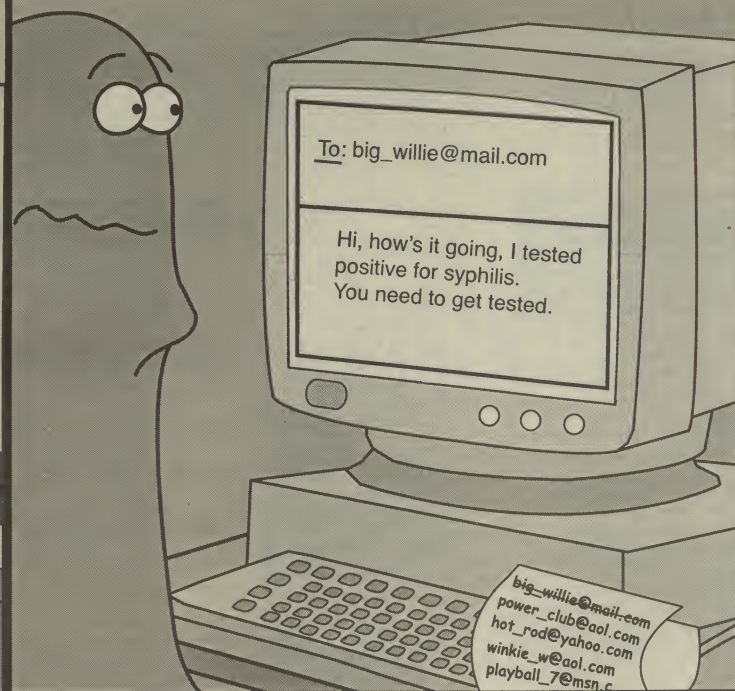
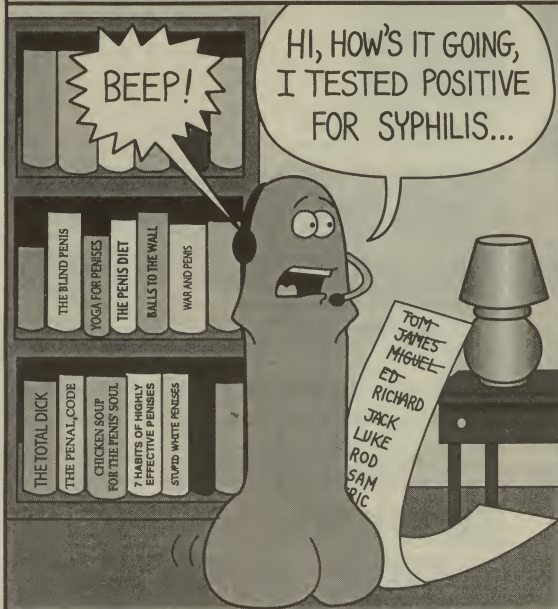
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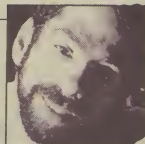
Colum McCann writes a fictive life of Rudolf Nureyev in his novel, 'Dancer.'

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Jazz trio with chops

Fred Hersch plus sidemen, live at Village Vanguard.

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Walk on the seamy side

Kate Bornstein at Rhino: 'Strangers in Paradox.'

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 33 • No. 10 • 6 March 2003

From India, China, Korea, Singapore, Indonesia, and the Philippines, with love

Ten highlights from 2003 Asian American Film Festival

by David Lamble

Mango Soufflé The festival's only specifically gay feature (and possibly the first time the huge Indian film industry has flirted with the topic) has six friends spending a *Boys in the Band*-style weekend on a sultry country estate, as a brother and sister compete for the affections of a fickle hunk named Ed (Atul Kulkarni).

Kamlesh (the sizzlingly hot and pony-tailed Ankur Vikal) is torn between his lust for Ed, who is currently dating his sister Kiran (Rinkie Khanna), and affection for his flamboyant ex-boyfriend Sharad (Fareedoon Dodo Bhujwala, who gives a bitchy, Harold-like reading to the author's message: a rebuke to India's upper-class sexual hypocrites). A rocky first act (a *Will & Grace*-style spoof of a Noel Coward drawing-room comedy) gives way to soft-core eroticism (some sexy underwater shots of Ed and Kamlesh smooching) and a not-untypically Bollywood-like dizzy ending, in which Ed and his tacky mustache are sent packing. It's no *Y Tu Mama*, but then what is? (Castro, 3/7)

Unknown Pleasures Best friends, 19-years-old jobless slackers Xiao Ji (the hair-shrouded face of actor Zhao Tao is a sexy ad for youthful nihilism) and Bin Bin (the more subdued Zhao Wei Wei) are a generation of Chinese youth further removed from the teachings of Chairman Mao than you and I. Trapped in a Northern provincial city closer to Mongolia than the national capital, these young men get their cultural marching orders from Hollywood rather than Beijing.

Director Jia Zhang-Ke achieves a kind of hypnotic visual poetry by training his digital camera on the rust-belt architecture of decaying state industries, contrasted with long interior scenes where charac-

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Director Mahesh Dattani's *Mango Soufflé* is considered the first gay film to emerge from India's Bollywood.

Music videos at the Asian American Film Festival

Tablas and turntables

by David Lamble

For four years, the Asian American Film Fest has been showcasing cutting-edge music representing the creative energy of a new generation of Asian American musicians and video artists. This year's *Directions in Sound* program consists of three events: a punk rock showcase at the Cafe du Nord on Friday, March 7; a night spotlighting South Asian electronica and the hip-hop underground at StudioZ.TV on Saturday, March 8; and *Hip-Hop, Don't Stop! II* at the Agenda Cellar in San Jose on Saturday, March 15. These programs complement *Music Video Asia* (Kabuki, 3/11), an 80-minute program consisting of 20 music videos from all over Asia, including samples of indie-electronica from Japan, Sufi rock 'n' roll from Pakistan, and kick-out-the-jams punk rock from China.

In this space, we'll preview a handful of the videos, then visit with two local performers of South Asian electronica, members of the Dhamaal collective, Ma-

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Japanese electronica band Polysics in their music video *New Wave Jacket*.

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To his own Self, he's true

Author Will Self revisits 'Dorian Gray'

by Roberto Friedman

Although our contact at Grove Press had led us to believe British "bad-boy" author **Will Self** might enjoy our interview if held at a nearby café, Self himself asked if we wouldn't mind simply coming up to his hotel room, where he graciously offered to ring up room service. He didn't want to go to a café or the hotel bar, he explained, because California is so damned puritanical re: smoking.



Self updates Wilde's ode to queens.

Out There assured him we enjoy secondary smoke, so Self puffed away on a pipeful of aromatic tobacco as we discussed his latest novel, *Dorian*, a reimagining of **Oscar Wilde's** "coming-out" book *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. Although Wilde's novel is about the ravages of time, ironically there are no external markers in it to indicate time passing. By contrast, Self's "imitation" is very grounded in historical reality, the roughly 16-year span between the rise of AIDS and the advent of retroviral "cocktail" therapy.



Self set *Dorian* in the '80s because, he says, that decade first saw the now-rampant "triumph of style over substance." Painter **Basil Hallward** is transformed into a video artist; his portrait of eye-turning youth *Dorian Gray* is now a nude video installation, "Cathode Narcissus"; and, while *Dorian's* captured image, infected by the virus, ages and declines, his own Adonis-like beauty (if not his morality) remains unblemished.

Self insists Wilde's original "ode to queenery" hasn't dated over 100 years (in a way curiously faithful to its premise, it's "timeless") and calls his own work a "sincere imitation." He certainly has a flair for Wildean epigrams; but then, as his gay, drug-addicted aristocrat **Henry Wotton** re-

marks, "A witticism is merely the half-life of an emotion."

While *Dorian* has taken somewhat of a critical drubbing here and home in the UK, it's hard to imagine a truly wicked satire realizing its vision without succeeding at offending the very sort paid to review it. All esteem goes to Self.

DeLaria-nygits

We do like to keep up on news of the Rialto, and **Lea DeLaria's** adventures on the New York stage do qualify. Although we're fans of Lea's, it's more frequently for her politics and potential than for her actual performance. And although critic **John Simon** gives good barb, he's widely considered a homophobe. So when Lea opened with a lead role in *Little Fish*, a new musical by **Michael John LaChiusa** (Simon: "who once could write tunes, but now mostly writes notes"), did she deserve John's simonizing? "As Cinder, the loud, grotesque, aggressively obnoxious Lea DeLaria, whenever onstage, turns a weak show into a freak show."

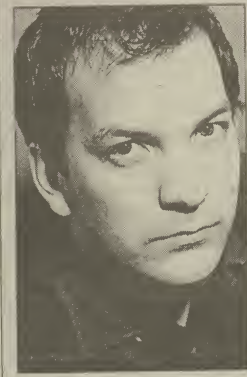
On her behalf, *The New Yorker* noted "the cast gamely tries to enliven the wan narrative (Lea DeLaria is notably awake)." Doesn't that count for something?

Stage door

Berkeley Rep opened *Fraülein Else* last night, March 5, in an adaptation of **Arthur Schnitzler's** novella by Rep-fave actress **Francesca Faridany**, who has just become the wife of the play's director, **Stephen Wadsworth**. When the *BAR* interviewed Wadsworth at the time of his directing Oscar Wilde's *An Ideal Husband* at the Rep, he was gay. We hope that in his new domestic arrangement he remains, at the very least, happy.

A promised protest in front of *Dame Edna's* opening at the Curran last week, on behalf of Hispano-Iberians offended by a glib remark Edna made in print in *Vanity Fair*, never materialized. Maybe someone somewhere was overcome by an actual sense of humor.

SF Performances brought jazz pianist **Brad Mehldau** to the Herbst last Saturday night, to have his way with a concert Steinway. The audience was distinctly of the in-the-know sort, but even they cannot have predicted rad Brad's improbable cover material. He put his mark on everything from



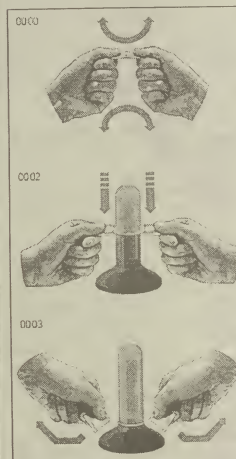
Mehldau does Joni and Monk.

Paul Simon ("50 Ways to Leave your Lover") and *Clouds*-period **Joni Mitchell** to **Thelonious Monk** and **Nirvana** ("Lithium"). We ate it up.

But these days, it's Russian teen lesbian duo **Tatu's** world, and we're just living in it. Suddenly the Slavic sexpots are everywhere; on the *Tonight* show, promising **Jay Leno** they wouldn't deep-kiss, then doing it anyway; on **Jimmy Kimmel's** show the next night, inking their favorite dirty Russian phrase on their host's hand; in videos, expressing their antiwar sentiment via Russian expletives on their T-shirts. An NBC spokesperson offered the press, "Bez komentariyev," which is Russian for, "No comment."

Love glove

Finally, an enterprising spirit has figured out how to make a condom that's as easy to put on as a Band-Aid. We found news of South African inventor **Willem van Rensburg's** ingenious new design for a condom applicator in *Details*. It involves adding a set of



From South Africa, an easy condom

polyethylene tabs onto the rubber's packaging, which make it easy to roll on; then the tabs simply slide off. Your slick and slippery fingers don't even have to touch the lifesaving latex. Van Rensburg is reportedly still looking for a distributor, but doesn't this seem an idea whose time has truly (and safely!) cum?

As a satisfied subscriber to *Details* has repeatedly pointed out to us in recent weeks, the men's magazine appears to be geared towards straight guys who want to be as hip or as sensitive as they perceive gay guys to be. OK, *Details* dudes are entitled to their articles on state-of-the-art condom applicators, and their fashion spreads with bulging boy models in their underpants (who exactly is the readership, again?), but the latest issue is full of tips gleaned from gay guys on how to make their cocks look bigger (shave pubes, etc.) If the mag is going to poach on our territory so blatantly, OT will feel compelled to run in-depth interviews with the likes of **Justin Timberlake**.

As Oscar Wilde said, "The first obligation of a gentleman is to dream." ▼

THEATRE

Blood will be spilled

Kate Bornstein on her cutting-edge play at Theatre Rhino

by Richard Dodds

Kate Bornstein will forever be billed as a "gender outlaw," but she says that "97% of my life has nothing to do with that." That's the 97% she tapped for her play *Strangers in Paradox*, opening this week at Theatre Rhino.

"It's probably the most specifically autobiographical piece I've ever written," Bornstein said. "I'm saying I'm glad you liked my gender stuff, but now here's the seamier side. Can we still be friends?"

While the plot of the play is an imagined tale of lesbian serial killers on the run, and a mysterious incarcerated woman with seemingly impossible knowledge of the crimes, the autobiographical elements come from "dealing with the stuff that I've been told by the culture to be ashamed of and not to talk about," Bornstein said. "I never thought I'd be writing about this stuff."

The 55-year-old author, who lived her early years as Albert Bornstein in Fargo, ND, listed the "seamier" issues that she continues to deal with to one degree or another: "It's the cutting, it's the drinking, the drugs, the vengeful side, anorexia, bulimia, you name it."

Strangers in Paradox has been seven years in the making, and the biggest challenge has been to keep it entertaining. "You can talk about anger, but you can't in any way hurt your audience unless they asked to be hurt," she said. "I'm taking the most care I can, because I'm talking about really scary stuff and presenting it in a really scary way."

In fact, Bornstein's play was delayed for a year to put more time between it and the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. "For the first three days, I felt utterly betrayed," she said of Theatre Rhino's decision to delay its production of *Strangers in Paradox*. "And then when I, as an adult, started to look at it, it made total sense. And sure enough, I needed this year to hone it."

Her main task in refining the play has been to pare away "the self-indulgent bullshit," Bornstein said. "You can go, whine, whine, whine, I used to cut myself. Whine, whine, whine, I still do. Whatever. But how do you make that interesting theater? How do you make that part of a concept that illustrates a point?"

Russell Blackwood, whose own Thrillpeddlers company specializes in Grand Guignol theater, is directing *Strangers in Paradox*. "A lot of directors ducked this script, but Russell grabbed it," Bornstein said. "He saw the blood. And I'm thrilled, because we're going to have some amazing, beautiful special effects." Expect two quarts of stage blood to be spilled at each performance.

While the specifics of Bornstein's personal journey through the minefields of life are uniquely her own, she does see various degrees of universality in her new play.

"I think queer people, anything that makes you freaky in society with an emphasis on sex and gender, can get a heartening message out of it. I think people who would like to express more of themselves can get a heartening message out of it. I think people who like to oppress queer people will get a cautionary message."

One of the characters in

Strangers in Paradox was first seen in *Hidden: A Gender*, another Bornstein original that Theatre Rhino produced in 1989. "Doc Grinder represents the boy side of me, that voice that speaks to all the reasons I shouldn't be queer, everything that made me feel I was bad. That was his voice. In this play, I try to make peace with that voice."

While *Hidden: A Gender* was clearly about gender issues, Bornstein said the new play doesn't deal directly with gender. "I wrote a book about five years ago called *My Gender Workbook*, and I really said everything I wanted to say about gender."

Her earlier book, *Gender Outlaw: On Men, Women, and the Rest of Us*, is a classic in its field, and it provides a frank discussion of her thoughts and experiences on her bumpy journey from man to

woman to beyond. "I keep trying to live as neither a man nor a woman," she said, "and that's not an easy thing to do."

Her journey included three heterosexual marriages to women, and one daughter, who remains in the Scientology movement that Bornstein eventually fled. The New York-based Bornstein is now partnered with Barbara Carrellas, and together they created and performed in the play *Too Tall Blondes in Love*.

"It's a Nora Ephron kind of bubbly thing," Bornstein said, "except the characters are a bisexual, sex-positivist sex educator and a transsexual sadomasochistic dyke."

Other theatrical projects Bornstein hopes to tackle include a queer variation on *Three Penny Opera* and her own version of *Long Day's Journey into Night*, though the latter will

have to wait while certain family members are still alive.

"Every member of my family loved me deeply," she said. "How they were able to express their love, and what the expression of that love did to wound us all, that's the scary part."

But first there is *Strangers in Paradox* to unleash, and Bornstein is nervous. "I remember going through a lot of the same feelings with *Hidden: A Gender*. Like, oh my God, are they going to throw rotten tomatoes? But more than any other city I've ever lived in, San Francisco has trusted me. So here we go again."

For tickets or more info on *Strangers in Paradox*, call 861-5079.

Short scenes

Impact Theatre is presenting the area debut of *Scab* by lesbian playwright Sheila Callaghan, winner of last year's Chesley Award in gay and lesbian theater. Melissa Hillman is directing the dark



Bornstein: really scary stuff.

love-triangle comedy, running March 7-April 5 at La Val's Subterranean Theatre in Berkeley. Call 464-4468.

New Conservatory Theatre Center's *In Concert* series continues with *Red, Hot & Cole*, running March 19-April 13. Director George Quick and musical director Dave Dobrusky are staging the revue made up of two dozen Cole Porter classics. Call 861-8972. ▼

Richard Dodds can be reached at BARstage@aol.com.

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Art as reflection

David Hockney exposes the Old Masters

by Robert Julian

Randall Wright's documentary, *David Hockney: Secret Knowledge*, currently play-

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ing the Roxie Cinema, is a quietly subversive work that allows this contemporary artist to articulate his theory about how, and why, art got a lot better in the 15th century. Art historians acknowledge that the quality of painting improved remarkably after 1420. But Hockney launches an investigation into the "why" of this phenomenon. His research leads him to the 15th-century invention of the lens, the camera lucida, and the camera obscura. And his relatively conclusive analysis suggests many of the Old Masters accomplished perfect proportion and perspective in their paintings by using projections to trace the images.

Some view Hockney's revelations as a stake to the heart of classicism. Defenders of the artistic realm might be understandably upset by the possibility that Ingres, van Eyck, and Vermeer were actually the original pioneers of a paint-by-numbers sys-

tem. Yet Hockney's thesis is supported by some impressive analysis.

In *Secret Knowledge*, Hockney recreates some classic paintings, using a camera obscura to project the image onto a canvas. The lens projects the image upside down and Hockney traces it to demonstrate the process. Hockney also deconstructs some famous paintings with his visual analyses. The most striking observation concerns depth-of-field problems that occur repeatedly in paintings beginning with the 15th century. Portions of the painted image go out of focus at different places on the canvas. Hockney points out that the eye never has a depth-of-field problem — it only occurs in cameras and lenses.

Less conclusive, but equally interesting, are problems with perspective that Hockney cites in many classic works. People in group settings are incorrectly posed in relation to each other, something Hockney attributes to multiple projections done onto one canvas at different times. Perspective problems also arise in the incorrect scale some body parts have in relation to other objects in a painting.

But the most amusing phenomenon Hockney exposes is an alternative universe of left-handed people who start showing up in 15th-century canvases. Primitive projections not only rendered the image upside down, but re-



Hockney says Vermeer's 'Girl with a Pearl Earring' was done by optics.

sulted in a mirror-image reflection where left became right, and vice-versa. This problem could only be fixed by using a second, mirror lens to correct the image. Many paintings were produced without the implementation of this corrective action.

Secret Knowledge is a must-see for any serious art student or art historian. This British production, originally screened in 2001, created quite a storm in the art

world. The subsequent controversy may seem like the proverbial tempest in a teapot when factual evidence is presented in such a detached manner. David Hockney: heretic or hero? You decide. ▼

David Hockney: Secret Knowledge screens at the Roxie Cinema, 3117 Valencia St., through March 11.

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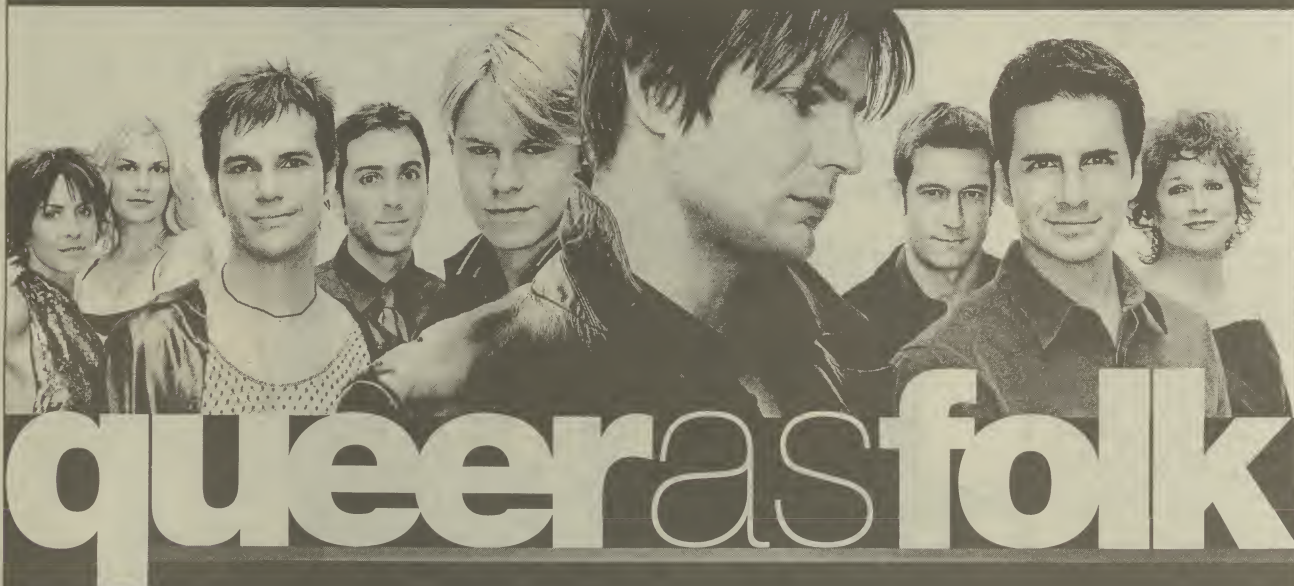
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ART

More will be revealed

What's up at the SF galleries in March

by Will Shank

San Francisco's most glam art event since the Art Expo at Fort Mason was last Thursday's Awesome Art Auction at the groovy new Clift Hotel. Gallery luminaries took on the roles of auction staff, with Stephen Tourell of Toomey-Tourell acting as a spirited and very funny host/auctioneer. (Perhaps Smirnoff, one of the sponsors, helped with his mood?) Pat Sweetow stood by, noting the winning bids on a clipboard, and di Rosa Preserve curator Richard Reisman donned a pair of fetching white gloves, the better to display the artworks for sale. Even in this depressed and depressing economy, the A-Gay boys who underwrite the big annual Oscar party coughed up the cash for works by Squeak Carnwath, Jock Sturges, Timothy Cummings and 40 others, raising a bundle for the deserving recipients, Visual Aid and the charities sponsored by The Academy of Friends.

The spirit of bidding competition may be gone, but worthy works of art are still available for sale, in a number of galleries this month. Bucheon in Hayes Valley has just opened an exhibition of the paintings of LA artist (and former San Franciscan) Christian Spruell. Part Ryman, part Ruscha, his oil-on-canvas works, some of them still smelling deliciously wet, are finely-crafted combinations of abstract stripe patterns and ambiguous word art. "White Lines" says it all, but it's far more than white in its suede-textured, alternating layers of brushstrokes. Look closely at some of the paintings, which appear to have had blobs of paint haphazardly thrown against the surface, and secrets are revealed. Could those be tiny paper-punch portraits imbedded in the paint? Through March 30 at 540 Hayes St.

Closing this Saturday at Braunstein/Quay (430 Clementina) is an installation to cherish of works from the past five years by nonagenarian Gordon Onslow Ford, still painting at the top of his form in his Marin County stu-

dio. With the death of Matta last November, G.O.F. is the last survivor of an era of the original group of Paris surrealists, and both a national and a local treasure. His Jungian-based swirls of calligraphy, painted on artists' paper adhered to fine linen, give the viewer entree into the artist's dreamworld. Not the figural surrealism of Dali or Magritte, his compositions are carefully selected geometric shapes, based on the circle, the line and the dot.

Little boxes

Another Bay Area institution is represented by a small show, *Animation Boxes*, tucked away in the backroom at Gallery Paule Anglim (14 Geary St.) SFAI professor Lawrence Jordan, whose work in varied media parallels the many movements of Bay Area art since the time of the Beats, is showing work from the past decade. His shadow-boxes may remind the viewer of Joseph Cornell, an early mentor for Jordan. Unlike Cornell's boxes, most of Jordan's feature moving parts. Layer upon layer of assemblage constructions lead the eye into a mysterious illusionary space beyond the back of the box in works like "Anima Box: Autumnal Equinox" (1996). Through March 8.

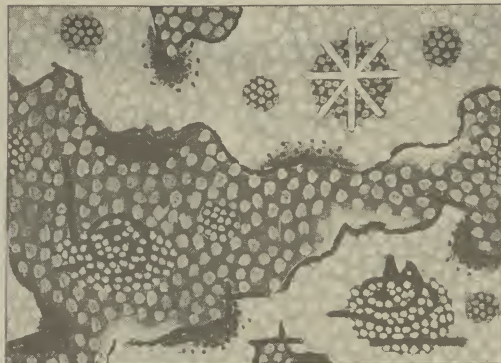
While you're downtown, swing through the lobby of One Post St. Artist Charles Linder has accomplished the impossible by installing hanging works that can compete with the austere stone architecture of the office lobby. Linder, best-known for establishing the cutting-edge galleries Refusalon and Linc Real Art, is showing his own dynamic *Gorgeous Accidents* series: poured epoxy resin that bubbles and swirls on solid panels, some of them perforated with circular voids. At the Crocker Plaza until April 25, courtesy of Brian Gross Fine Art.

Back on Geary Street at Rena Bransten, '60s icon Rupert Garcia, now a tenured professor at San Jose State, takes us on a trip down memory lane. In *Another Look, the 1960s & 1970s*, famous silkscreen images of left-wing heroes like Frida Kahlo are available in a new

edition for only \$1,500. Other poster-inspired images of Garcia's own earlier work are revisited in new formats, which include digital printing directly onto canvas, as well as interesting juxtapositions: in the triptych "1867/1970/2002," a movie audience in 3-D glasses separates two menacing enemies, a cowboy and an Indian. In this case, the cowboy is derived from a Manet painting of 1867, and the Indian is a re-working of a Garcia silkscreen from 1970. Through March 22 at 77 Geary St.

A contemporary complement to the Chicano-based musings of Garcia is a show at Galeria de la Raza (2857 24th St.), also up until March 22. Stanford grad Patrick "Pato" Hebert, a former Horace Mann Middle School teacher currently based in LA, has installed an exhibition in the Mission called *Somoson*. The name is a fabricated Spanish word loosely translated as "We Are/You Are." Compelling, changing backlit portraits in the storefront entice the visitor to enter Hebert's world of we-are-all-one, which reflects his work on the LA County Commission on Human Relations, through a program called "No Haters Here."

Panoramic photographs, in a series titled in Spanglish *Tierratories*, show some of LA's less savory neighborhoods in living color. Hebert finds the beauty in subjects that are "deemed ugly because they're people of color, because they're queer, because they're



'Earth Spirits' (2002) by nonagenarian artist Gordon Onslow Ford.

poor." His photos of queer Latino nightlife are not included here, but a lack of wall text leaves ambiguous the relationship of one couple of handsome, buff guys who may or may not be lovers. Paired as diptychs with images of an empty rocking-chair in his mother's native Panama, the series called *Hay una vieja que está enamorada* ("There's an Old Woman Who is in Love") commands the viewer's attention. It uses the technology that makes the crucified Jesus open and close his eyes in those tacky postcards, to change multiple portraits back and forth from one image to another.

SF Camerawork's current show also focuses on the portrait. *ID/ENTITY* can be interpreted several ways, depending on how you pronounce it. The portrayal of self by artists is explored through media which have little to do with traditional photography, but which explore the possibilities of alternative media to focus on the "id" of "identity." The

exhibition is worth seeing for the work of surveillance artist Julia Scher. Her naughty photo-booth talks to you in mellifluous female tones while you are surveyed by multiple videocameras, with monitors on the outside. SFMO-MA visitors will remember her work at the museum, in which she appeared to have captured nude runners in the corridors and illicit trysts in the restrooms.

At the opposite end of the spectrum from Scher's unaware victims of technology is a video document by The Surveillance Camera Players. These in-your-face performance artists play directly to New York City's surveillance cameras, exercising their own form of control over the ubiquitous agents of espionage. Works by Jim Campbell, JD Beltran, and a collaboration between Paul Kaiser and Merce Cunningham complete the exhibition, which was organized by MIT. Through March 22 at 1246 Folsom. ▼

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Served with a smile

Dame Edna humiliates with humor at the Curran

by Richard Dodds

Is there anything scarier than the thought of Dame Edna Everage gaining more self-confidence? Apparently that's what a hit Broadway run, a special Tony Award, and a successful national tour can do for you.

When Barry Humphries, in the guise of Dame Edna, first played San Francisco in 1998, his success at wooing American audiences was still to come. His opening night at Theatre on the Square at times felt rushed, and while Dame Edna would never admit to insecurity, the man who inhabits her did later acknowledge a nervous first-night disposition.

Well, on opening night at the

Curran, where *A Night with Dame Edna* runs through March 16, Humphries held forth for two-and-a-half hours with a quick-witted assurance that was breathtaking and even a little exhausting.

Comedy by Edna comes with a certain edge-of-your-seat quality born of its improvisational style. While the show is made up of set pieces, some familiar from Edna's first engagement here, many of them are based on interactions with members of the audience who are called upon to provide details of their homes, clothes, partners, and parents. No matter the responses, Dame Edna will always find a way to humiliate with a smile.

But even Dame Edna is fallible. Humphries is proud of his efforts

to localize his shows, and here earned cheers with his mockery of the new Union Square, but he unintentionally amused audiences by locating Edna's daughter in a trailer park amidst the garlic odors of Kilroy. But he got Solvang right, devilishly enjoying the leaden lilt of the town's name.

Dame Edna also boasts of her lack of political correctness, which amused the audience until referring to "cripples" in a bit about handicapped bathroom stalls, which brought down the

laughter a notch. A reference to Madeleine Albright's discovery of her Jewish roots also earned a muted response, mostly because that story now feels a lifetime ago.

But freshness is built into any show that by its nature changes from night to night as much as Dame Edna's does. Humphries has created an act like no other, and one can't help suspect that he takes pleasure in humiliation. His best trick is that, through Dame Edna, he seduces us into sharing this guilty pleasure. ▼



Edna seduces as she insults us.

A Night with Dame Edna plays the Curran Theatre through March 16. Tickets (\$25-\$62): 512-7770.

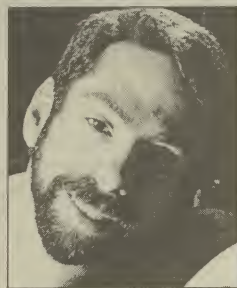
Trio setting

Fred Hersch live at the Village Vanguard

by Michael McDonagh

Three ways are either mutually participatory, or they're like a three-legged table which can't quite stand. New York-based jazz pianist Fred Hersch — he's HIV-positive and has done much work for this cause — who's widely known both as a soloist, through his *Nonesuch* albums and *Live at Maybeck* CD, and as a session leader, has led several trios. His current CD, with bassist Drew Gress and drummer Nasheet Waits, showcases their strengths as individuals, and as mutual participants in a larger unit.

Many jazz greats have worked in the classic trio format. One thinks of Duke Ellington's brief trio outings, as well as the far more famous piano-led ones of Hersch



Hersch shows both taste and depth.

influence Bill Evans and Oscar Peterson; and the vocal-driven ones of Tony Bennett and Patricia Barber. Hersch's latest trio was recorded live at lower Manhattan's fabled jazz club the Village Vanguard last

May. Judged on the evidence of this new Palmetto Records CD, Hersch's trio may achieve greatness. It isn't there yet, but it's still very good. What's more, Hersch's two "sidemen" have chops and, even more importantly, imagination. If the latter quality is missing, it's not jazz; or, as Ellington used to say, "It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing."

Hersch's opener, "Bemsha Swing," is tops in that, and it shows his band at full tilt. They capture the spare, off-the-beat melodic patterns in this Thelonious Monk tune effortlessly, and it's a lot more convincing than the pianist's *Nonesuch* solo album devoted to the works of this eccentric genius, which sometimes sounded spur-of-the-moment amateurish. Gress' solo lines in "Bemsha Swing" are remarkably fluid, Waits' choice of drums and brushes unhackneyed.

The rhythmic interplay of Hersch's trio drives his punningly titled "Phantom of the Bopera." The harmonies, as always in bop, are complex, with multiple meters in the drum solo. This segues into another Hersch original, the equally long-lined and highly lyric "Endless Stars," with its spacious samba-based central section. Another atypical Hersch tune, "Swamp Thing," is a down-and-dirty blues. The pianist's program is cannily structured: each piece builds subtly on the next, and you can hear that Hersch's lyric and rhythmic/harmonic approaches aren't in any way opposed, but rather two sides of the same coin, each entirely necessary and essential to the other.

Hersch is often regarded as lightweight in the rhythm department, and this CD proves how far that perception is from the truth. It also shows his stunning sense of color, and his highly calibrated yet thoroughly natural-sounding sense of touch. He's completely virtuosic when he wants to be. He can be a composer's composer, too, as in the very touching Hersch original, "Days Gone By," which seamlessly conjoins his songlike and rhythmic impulses, and has, to boot, several striking episodes in contrary motion. His fusion of two Wayne Shorter tunes, "Miyako" and "Black Nile," is very skillful. But Hersch's closer, the Fain/Kahal "I'll Be Seeing You," is perfect. There's a very expressive holdback in tempo (or *ritard*) at the end, then silence, no applause, which shows both taste and depth. Not many musicians can score on both counts, but Hersch decidedly does. This is a fine album, and it grows on one with each new listen. ▼

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Calm in the eye of the storm

Maestro Yan Pascal Tortelier leads the San Francisco Symphony

by Philip Campbell

After two weeks of highly civilized and relatively low-key concerts, one could almost think the world was functioning sanely outside the walls of Davies Hall.

Thanks to returning guest conductor Yan Pascal Tortelier, an annual visitor for eight seasons, life at the San Francisco Symphony has been soothingly normal. The repertoire and performances have been uniformly excellent; hardly earthshaking, but we can be grateful for the oasis of calm.

Son of famed cellist Paul Tortelier, Yan Pascal always brings a clear head and strongly musical will to bear on slightly offbeat program selections. There is nothing that would scare the horses, simply the mildly unusual.

For his first week, Tortelier led the sensitively responsive orchestra in concise and pleasing renditions of Ravel's *Valses nobles et sentimentales* and Edward Elgar's *Enigma Variations*. With some expressive liberties, the conductor pushed and pulled the cadences of Ravel's lovely waltzes, making it hard to imagine them as ballroom dances. Still, the transparency of the strings and the delicacy of the flute- and oboe-playing made a wonderfully sensuous effect.

Perhaps in tribute to his late father's instrument, Tortelier made the centerpiece of the evening Swiss composer Frank



Yan Pascal Tortelier has a strong musical will, while Jessica Jones gave an illuminating debut.

Martin's infrequently heard Cello Concerto. It was a chance for the Symphony's principal cellist Michael Grebanier to shine, and he made a strong showing.

The Concerto sounds deceptively simple, but requires disciplined virtuosity. Tonal, lyrical and rather grave, the score could have been written for Grebanier's fulsome, robust tone. The only drawback in his performance was a certain lack of ardor. The difficult passages were navigated successfully, and the dissonances held

no terror for the soloist, but his carefulness robbed the conclusion of some excitement.

Rimbaud setting

Last week brought a vocal soloist to center-stage. In her SFS debut, soprano Jessica Jones made a favorable impression with Benjamin Britten's marvelous *Les Illuminations*.

Primarily known for her work with Houston Grand Opera, Jones has won some prestigious awards and participated in the

Britten-Pears School in England. That last credential may explain her choice of material. Britten's remarkably apt setting of poems by Arthur Rimbaud is a real *tour de force* for a soprano or a tenor.

Written for a woman but made famous by Britten's lover, Peter Pears, *Les Illuminations* is a fascinating and lush work. Looking and sounding fresh and attractive, Jones was best in the more declarative verses, for her voice has a pleasing edge and little vibrato.

That very steadiness of tone

was less appealing in the erotic "Antique" and the mysterious "Being Beauteous." She managed the complexities and perils of the other poems brilliantly, but with less than idiomatic French articulation. It has been noted that Britten wrote with an English accent, and I don't think anyone ever called Pears a sensualist, either.

The concert opened with Gabriel Faure's Suite from *Pelléas and Mélisande*, a perfect lead-in to the Britten. The closing work on the surprisingly brief program was Mozart's Symphony No. 39, given a graceful performance with just enough weight — typical of Tortelier's intelligence and insight.

The violins played superbly for the visiting leader throughout his stay, especially incisive in *Les Illuminations*. All of the orchestra members seem happy to follow his directions and, while they are probably the best sight-readers in the business, there is a sense of their pleasure at working with him. His gestures on the podium seem fussy at times, but the collaboration is successful, easy to see in the amount of eye contact between participants.

Tortelier exemplifies a European attitude towards concertizing. Not every performance must be a major event, simply a chance to spend an evening listening to and appreciating the less flashy gems in the repertoire. Let us just hope that the world has come to its senses by the time of his next visit. ▼

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Asian Am. Fest

◀ Arts cover

ters ache for connection. Xiao Ji and Bin Bin chase after girls who have different futures in mind. The brutal monotony is captured in a scene where Xiao Ji is punished for flirting with the wrong girl by the henchmen of the local beer baron, his pretty face slapped repeatedly, until we experience a sensation akin to the off-kilter eroticism of Andy Warhol's *Blow Job*. The boys' stab at crime (sticking up a bank with a fake weapon) is as feckless as Belmondo in *Breathless*. (Kabuki, 3/12)

Chicken Rice War A parody of *Romeo and Juliet* set in Singapore, performed in English, with a rock soundtrack. Two proud families, the Wongs and the Chans, compete for the hearts and minds of the local mall's chicken-ice eaters. The film shares a plot, style and sense of humor with Tommy O'Haver's teens-do-Shakespeare farce, *Get Over It*. As their families duel to the death over secret chicken-sauce recipes, Fenson Wong (TV heartthrob Pierre Png) and Audrey Chan (Lum May Yee) find themselves sharing more than a stage. *Chicken Rice War* (director Cheek's first feature) garnishes its plate with hip tips for eating French fries ("Suck and blow," a bilingual Croatian bartender, a Malay Greek chorus, and a gay stalker. (Kab, 3/8, 10, 12)

15 25-year-old filmmaker Royston Tan shows us a darker side of Singapore in his dazzling slice into the psyches of three frustrated schoolboys in the punkish short *15*. Vynn Soh,

Shawn Tan and Melvin Chen play themselves giving each other tattoos, joking about decadent sex with girlfriends and each other, rumbling with other Chinese boy-gangs, getting canned at school, having only your best friend remember your birthday with a cheap cake he pushes into your face, and not thinking about the future.

Tan says the tattooed flesh and steely-eyed looks of Vynn, Shawn and Melvin, their determination to flirt with death and despair, brought him face-to-face with his own recent memories of adolescence. His kinetic filmmaking gives lie to the notion that teenage boys, particularly Asian boys, are inarticulate or lacking in passion. *15*, along with chewing gun, is banned in Singapore. (Kab, 3/10)

Eliana, Eliana A disaffected young Indonesian woman who's been locked out of her apartment, Eliana (Rachel Sayidina), spends a long night searching for her female roommate, while sharing the backseat of a Jakarta taxi with her strong-willed mother, Bunda (Jajang C. Noer). The women relive their painful history in screaming matches between the taxi and a series of cheap restaurants. Director/writer Riri Riza means her film, shot in 14 days with a digital camera, to demonstrate a more personal style of filmmaking, as a traditional society is turned on its head by economic chaos and post-9/11 ennui. (PFA, 3/7, Kab, 3/9, 11)

New Moon With American troops now stationed in the Southern Philippines with a mission to root out Muslim "terrorists," it might be useful to see just who these terrorists are. In direc-

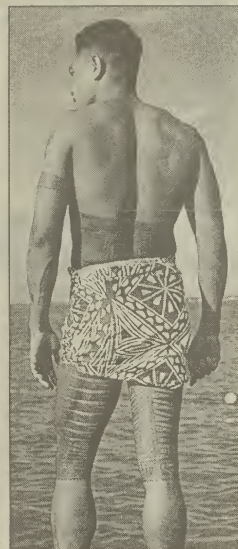


YMAA Baseball Team climaxes in a game against the Japanese Army.

tor Marilou Diaz-Abaya's action-filled drama, Francis (Jiro Manio), an 8-year-old Christian boy, finds himself lost on his nation's second largest island in the custody of Rashid (Carlo Aquino), a 14-year-old rebel fighter. Holding back tears, Francis whispers, "My grandfather warned me to be wary of you Moros. You behead people, you don't believe in Jesus or Mary." The older boy sneers, "We will fight even if they send soldiers."

Francis sucks up to Rashid: "I won't tell them you're Muslim. You can even be our houseboy." They'll bond over a journey that takes them through some of the thickest jungles and deepest swamps. Their journey becomes a symbolic pilgrimage, their eyes scanning a fertile landscape that is the prize in the war on terrorism. (Kab, 3/8, 10)

Neither Fish, Nor Fowl Born in Korea, abandoned by his parents only to be adopted by a childless German couple, Michael (Ill-Young Kim) faces his confusing identity. As he explains to young Korean immigrant Jin Hi (Ju Youn Kim), "No one wanted to sit next to me in school, because they were afraid I'd abduct them. And then they wanted to be my friend because they were in some kind of Bruce Lee trip." Jin Hi nevertheless finds Michael's sweet smile and goofy spirit a welcome alternative to traditionally-raised Korean men. If you've ever felt that you didn't belong in the only place you'd ever been, Matthias Keilich's thoughtful social comedy is for you. (Kab, 3/7, 8)



Skin Stories: back from extinction

Skin Stories Emiko Omori compiles subtly erotic images to document the 2,000-year-old Polynesian art of tattooing, and the youthful practitioners who are pulling it back from possible extinction. "The marks we choose to wear are clues to the mystery of ourselves." (Kab, 3/9)

Bend It Like Beckham Jess (Parminder K. Nagra) lives to watch her hero David Beckham kick home the winning goal, dreaming that she herself could



Bend It Like Beckham: action!

one day be a professional footballer. Violating the wishes of her traditional Indian parents, Jess practices on the common with the local teen-boy hooligans until one day she's spotted by a member of a semi-pro women's team, Jules (Keira Knightley).

The girls' friendship barely survives suspicions of lesbianism, jealousy over the affections of the team's hunky male coach (Jonathan Rhys-Meyers), and a *Perils of Pauline* plot that has Jess playing the most important game of her life on the same day as her sister's wedding. Director Gurinder Chadha's film, combining soccer action, a look inside a female team locker room, and a cute gay subplot, should be a hit with queer sports fans. (Kab, 3/7)

YMAA Baseball Team The little-known story of another set of pioneering athletes is told in Kim Hyunseok's drama about the first Korean all-star baseball team, formed in 1905 in time to spark resistance to colonial domination by Japan. Created by a young Korean scholar aided by American missionaries, the Seoul YMAA team exemplified the young sport in Korea, winning all its matches and climaxing in a 1912 game against a Japanese Army team. (Kab, 3/9, 11; San Jose, 3/16) ▼

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Asian music vids

◀ Arts cover

neesch the Twister and Janaka Atugoda.

Music Video Asia Twenty years after the Sex Pistols screamed "God Save the Queen," a scruffy band of Chinese punk rockers calling themselves Brain Failure have concocted their own anthem. *Anarchy in the P.R.C.* (The People's Republic of China) is like the best of punk, musically crude. The lyrics read like a list in the face, from a generation born after the Cultural Revolution. Children from one-child families, their values are the money in their pockets and the subversive sights and sounds of Western pop. Anna-Sophie Lowenberg's video gives us the music full blast, images of the band intercut with scenes of Chinese youth in leather jackets and Mohawks, swigging down bottles of Coke and rubbing shoulders with elderly shoppers.

A much calmer approach to shopping is delivered by a candy-sweet Indonesian band called Sheila on 7, in a video directed by Tony P. Sianipar. A young man wakes up, splashes water on his face, and quickly dissolves into the showroom of a Jakarta version of a Pottery Barn. In three minutes, a

group of pranky young people gently mocks middle-class consumer dreams, until we dissolve back to the young man falling asleep on his newly purchased sofa.

An explosion of experimental animation marks *New Wave Jacket* from the Japanese electronica band Polysics; members of Pakistani Sufi rock band Junoon turn on a movie projector to watch themselves cavort on a rooftop in Lucas Traub's production of their English-language ballad "No More." From Taiwan, the group Sticky Rice spoof their society's military anxieties in *Army Song*, the drill, complete with well-tailored uniforms and boys in sexy ski-masks, produced to a catchy dance beat by Johnny Wu. A young Japanese boy has watery fantasies while performing his morning bathroom rituals in *Drop* by the band Cornelius, directed by Koichie Tsujikawa. And the special treat on the program is Hong Kong director Wong Kar-wai's images for DJ Shadow's performance of "Six Days."

Tables turned

How does a guy born in Sri Lanka, who came of age musically in the UK, come to team up with a guy born in Knoxville, Tennessee, raised in Dallas, who starts expressing himself while a student

radio DJ at the U. of Texas in Austin? Perhaps only in SF could Janaka Atugoda and Maneesh the Twister not only meet, but form the South Asian electronica music collective Dhamaal. Janaka, whose diplomat parents had globe-trotted through his childhood, found a permanent home in Britain. By 1996, he was happy to call the Bay Area home, but he missed the music he'd grown up with. Egged on by friends, Janaka bought some turntables. "Dhamaal arose out of a party I had after I got my turntables. Maneesh came over to spin, and I got a phone call from two tabla players. We ended up DJing, and these tabla players started jamming with us. People said, 'You guys got to do this in a club.'"

Maneesh says airtime for South Asian electronica is growing on alternative stations like KALX, KUSF and KPFA. Dhamaal, at its regular gig at Club Six, 60 Sixth St., draws large crowds, including members of the growing South Asian queer communities. Dhamaal recorded the musical trailer heard before all programs at this year's Asian Am. Film Fest, and this Saturday, the StudioZ TV jam will include a special meeting between Dhamaal and NYC's legendary Mutiny Crew. Info at maneesh@spacecake.com. ▼

BOOKS

Reimagining Nureyev

by Stephanie von Buchau

Dancer by Colum McCann;
Metropolitan Books, \$26

Norman Mailer was recently in town, full of the usual piss and vinegar, lecturing on the art of writing. He suggested that what passes for "writing" in today's novels is similar to what passes for food at McDonald's. He was talking about best-selling novels, presumably of the John Grisham and Stephen King sort, Big Macs for the brain.

He was not talking about *Dancer*, a reimagined, exquisitely-written, fictional life of Rudolf Nureyev, the most exciting dancer of the second half of the last century. I am not going to suggest that if you know nothing about ballet or Nureyev that you will get as much out of this book as those who are familiar with the Russian dancer, his extravagant, expensive lifestyle, his overt homosexuality, and his eventual death from AIDS-related illness.

Yet *Dancer* is still a magnificent "read," a page-turner that should make the best-selling boys named above pea-green with envy. McCann, about whom you will learn very little from his bio in this book (they could have told us where he was born; the name and the verbal fluency suggest Ireland, but one does not like to stereotype), is the kind of lyrical writer who makes the plain-and-simple stylists among us tend to cringe.

I'm told that his previous four books, including novels and volumes of short stories, are some-



Rudolf Nureyev's unorthodox, rebellious life is the subject of a new novel.

what overwritten. You can tell from *Dancer* that he could easily get up to no good with those endless lists and changing points of view. Yet in this book, which covers the main incidents in Nureyev's life, McCann is bound first by the facts (his fictionalizing is quite modest) and then by the time sequence.

Nureyev grew up in Ufa, a Soviet cowtown, and developed his dance and musical skills with the help of various misfits and oddballs, including a former Kirov

dancer who had been exiled with her husband to Ufa. He got into the Kirov school and disrupted everything with his unorthodox style, his omnivorous sexuality, and his rebellious spirit. Eventually he defected from the Soviet Union, and ended up in London dancing with Margot Fonteyn, twice his age, but the perfect partner.

Multiple viewpoints

Oddly enough, in *Dancer*, we visit almost none of these events: the birth on a train, the Kirov schooling, the famous run to freedom at Orly Airport, onstage encounters with Fonteyn. Instead, McCann chooses to describe Nureyev's life through the eyes of others. The narrative is always in the first person, and the speaker is seldom identified. Yet within a few sentences, we realize we are watching young Rudik grow up through the eyes of his sister, the husband of the ex-Kirov dancer who first taught him, and their daughter in Leningrad.

Later, as Nureyev becomes internationally infamous, we meet his lover, the great Danish dancer Erik Bruhn, and his Venezuelan friend Victor, who stalks the Studio 54-Warholish New York like a pint-sized god. Victor is a happy-

page 39 ►

Ménage a trois

by Robert Julian

Trio Sonata by Juliet Sarkessian;
Harrington Park Press, \$14.95



Juliet Sarkessian is a Philadelphia-based lawyer and writer whose first novel deals, at least in part, with a relatively unexplored phenomenon. In *Trio Sonata*, Sarkessian's main character, Janna, begins the novel in 1989 at the age of 30. Janna is seeking financing for an expansion of her Philadelphia coffeehouse and struggling with an unsuccessful relationship with her boyfriend. Through a series of coincidences, she meets a couple of college students, Alex and Phillip, who become her roommates. The men are a gay couple, 20 years younger than Janna, and passionately in love with each other. After they take up residence in Janna's house, she finds herself irresistibly drawn to their bedroom.

Janna begins by listening to Alex and Phillip making love, then eventually watching from the sidelines, with their permission. It is something of a sexual obsession for Janna, but the first time Phillip reaches out and kisses her in the midst of making love to Alex, his partner freaks and the spell is broken. The men move out, and the potential of this *ménage a trois* goes unfulfilled.

One of the most striking aspects of Sarkessian's work is her observation that straight men's compulsive fascination with lesbian sex is socially acceptable, while a straight woman similarly obsessed with love-making be-

tween gay men will be ostracized. The latter situation rarely occurs in fiction, other than by reflection in the works of authors like Mary Renault or Patricia Nell Warren. Unfortunately, this predilection does not receive the exposition it deserves in Sarkessian's work; the author retreats from the arrangement before she can explore its true potential.

Trio Sonata is a competent first work, but Sarkessian is not a sophisticated prose stylist. The early third-person portion of the book seems particularly stilted. Sarkessian changes narrative voice several times in *Trio Sonata*, and she is at her least believable in the initial exploration of her main character, Janna. The story only takes off in the later sections of the novel, when she writes in the first-person voice of Alex or Phillip. But *Trio Sonata* retains an essential sweetness that should help the reader overlook the occasionally awkward structure of its revelations. ▼

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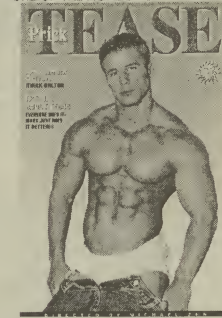
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Shake, Rattle and roll

Sir Simon begins with Mahler in Berlin

by Tim Pfaff

What with the rotten economy, general downsizing of talent and corrosive effects of classical music's publicity machinery, there just aren't that many big stories in classical music these days. It's odd, given that, how one of the perennial ones — a changing of the guard in the music director's post at the Berlin Philharmonic — retains its almost primitive power. Last September, the literal baton passed from the hands of the BPO's first non-German director, Claudio Abbado, to those of its second, Sir Simon Rattle. The wires, predictably, buzzed.



Less predictably, and less revealingly than one would have hoped, the microphones were on, too. EMI recorded Rattle's Mahler Fifth Symphony live on September 10, and rushed the CD to stores by Thanksgiving. It begs comparison with one of Abbado's final recordings with the Berliners, a live Mahler Seventh (recorded in May 2001).

I haven't a single qualm about calling Rattle's the best-played Mahler 5 I know. What many deem the world's greatest orchestra clearly was putting on the dog for its shaggy-haired new master, and the playing is frequently

downright shocking in its clarity, precision, balance, and depth. The same, sadly, cannot be said for Rattle, who seems to cave in to the sheer beauty of his new band's sound. This is hardly a callow performance. In fact, it fairly reeks with sincerity, often at the expense of ideas. The Adagietto, as but the prime example, is rendered with a wealth of feeling, not a hint of sentimentality, and an almost Buddhist middle-road of pacing. (Gallons of ink have been spilled about conductors' tempos and timings for this movement.)

Yet, while it's impossible not to be impressed by the performance, it's equally hard to be genuinely moved by it. It's so mired in admiration of Mahler's compositional architecture — from a distance that affords the fairest perspectives — that it feels more like the entranced contemplation of the design than a real-life experience, which this febrile, death-drenched work is.

Shattered

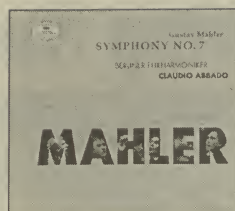
After a few listenings, I turned, almost fearfully, to my Mahler 5 of preference: Bernstein's live DG recording with the Vienna Philharmonic (recorded live shortly after a shattering 1987 performance in Davies Hall that was part of the same tour). No one I know left Davies the same, and the performance was the first time I fully "got" the piece. It was just as I remembered it, that defining Mahler sound — neurotic yet defiant; stirred, not shaken — evident from first measure to last. Its sheer, jittery humanity makes Rattle's performance seem like a space alien's.

Even though I had similar feelings about Rattle's 1999 recording of the Mahler Tenth with the BPO (when he was but a twinkle in its eye), I have no doubt that the

partnership has a bright future (as long as W. doesn't find it necessary to make a preemptive strike against recalcitrant Germany.) The abundant proof of Rattle's being the real thing needs no further elaboration, and the other recording he has made with the BPO as music director, the luminous Schoenberg *Gurrelieder* reviewed here a few months ago, augurs much, and well.

Give the guy a break. He follows in the footsteps of the man who, for me, has been the greatest BPO director to date, Abbado. (I say that as a major Karajan admirer.) It was Abbado's first Mahler 7, with the Chicago Symphony, that finally revealed this weirdest of Mahler symphonies to me, and this new live one surpasses it.

Of living conductors, Abbado



speaks the Mahler idiom most fluently. It's far more than his uncanny way of getting to the heart (and sometimes raw nerve-endings) of the pieces. There are identifiable, quantifiable elements as well. No other conductor I know has so clearly learned from historical precedents and then so thoroughly integrated that perspective into his own artistic vision. In Abbado's Mahler, there's the unstinting use of string portamento, the enormous rhythmic freedom (over a strict sense of meter it might take an atomic clock to measure), and a deep feeling for proportion that allows him to make moves of startling spon-

taneity.

It's all on spectacular display on this miracle of a Seventh, which revels, phrase by succulent phrase, in the composer's eccentricity of instrumentation, orchestration, design, and artistic vision. All the details are captivating, which calls attention to that Mahler signature, the erecting of a juggernaut of sound, and then letting it all come crashing down in a sonic cascade of horrid splendor. Abbado does that best, and may never have done it with more wrenching beauty than here. And he doesn't just avoid the banality that fouls most readings of the final movement, he makes the episode one of the most unashamedly glorious finales in Mahler. What a note on which to pass the baton. ▼

Overly enunciated

by Jason Serinus

Renée Fleming & Bryn Terfel:
Under the Stars - Orchestra of
Welsh National Opera/Paul
Gernigani (Decca)

Attention turns to this major label disc of Broadway solos and duets. Sung by two of the most sought-after opera singers on today's stages, soprano Renée Fleming and bass-baritone Bryn Terfel, the compilation offers such a contradictory mixture of gorgeous vocalism and over-the-top histrionics as to give new meaning to the well-worn saying, "There is no accounting for taste."

Terfel is marvelous. A bear of a next page ►



Beauty and the bear: together, Fleming and Terfel are rather over the top.

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MUSIC

Piotr's piano transformations

Anderszewski plays the Herbst next Wed.

by Jason Serinus

Listening to the first notes of Piotr Anderszewski's new recording of Bach's lovely Partita No. 1, one senses a special artist at work. There's a softness to his touch, a gentleness bordering on reticence, which makes the beauty of the opening Praeludium linger in the mind, even as the music moves forward to the jaunty pace of the subsequent Allemande.

Keyboard artist Anderszewski launched his international career in 1991 at the age of 22, when he performed Beethoven's immensely challenging *Diabelli Variations* in London's Wigmore Hall. Laudated international appearances and

recordings followed, culminating in Anderszewski's receipt of the 2002 Gilmore Artist Award. The most generous financial award granted in the musical arts is only presented to exceptional pianists who possess broad and profound musicianship, charisma, and desire, and who can sustain a major international concert career, capable of making "a real impact on music."

A listen to Anderszewski's three most recent recordings suggests the depth of musicianship that San Francisco concertgoers will experience when he performs for San Francisco Performances on March 12. His first Virgin recording, a 2001 traversal of Beethoven's *Diabelli Variations* for solo piano, earned France's *Dia-*

pason d'Or and *Le Choc Monde de la Musique* awards, and immediately became *Gramophone* magazine's recommended recording of this much-recorded opus. Anderszewski's personal relationship with the work has also been captured on film by noted cinematographer Bruno Monsiegeon.

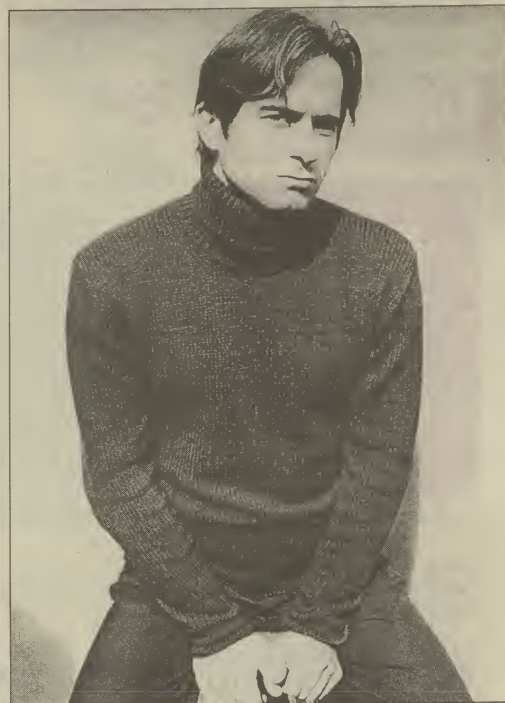
Anderszewski's second Virgin disc, which spotlights him playing and conducting Mozart's Piano Concertos Nos. 21 and 24, was second runner-up for the 2002 *Gramophone* Instrumental Award. His latest recording, featuring three of Bach's six Partitas for solo keyboard, includes the one he will play on his US tour, Bach's Partita No. 1 in B-flat Major.

Because Bach wrote his Partitas for the harpsichord and/or clavichord, many artists play them on the modern piano with the limited dynamic range and pinpoint sound of its more modest predecessors in mind. The silvery-toned harpsichord, for example, has no ability to alter dynamics, while the slight-voiced clavichord's dynamic and tonal expanse cannot approach the grander reaches of the modern piano.

Range play

There is certainly no hint of the harpsichord in Anderszewski's Partitas; he embraces the concert grand's vast range of tone and dynamics. In contrast to Glenn Gould, a pianist famed for his unbelievably fast, perfectly precise fingerwork and eccentric (if not downright wayward) interpretations, Anderszewski chooses slower tempos. Of the three Partitas on his disc, Nos. 1, 3, and 6, only the opening Toccata movement of No. 6 is played faster than Gould's version. In No. 1, the lightest and most immediately attractive of the Partitas, Anderszewski's considerably slower playing comes across as soft and heartfelt where Gould astounds with percussive accuracy.

Bach's Partita No. 1 of 1726, one of his earliest keyboard "exer-



Piotr Anderszewski has broad, profound and charismatic musicianship.

Fleming & Terfel

◀ previous page

Welshman who is famed for larger-than-life portrayals, Terfel's ability to aurally swell in size while simultaneously supplying more of the vocal beauty he emits in soft passages is extraordinary. He's also a natural in showtunes, the occasional overemphasis his largeness of character lends to words in a Schubert song more often than not appropriate for the popular idiom. His unforced diction is especially laudable.

Soprano Fleming certainly impresses vocally. Given that this disc comes on the heels of her Grammy-nominated *Bel Canto* recording of coloratura gems, she astounds by sounding equally rich and beautiful in her low register. What is at the least off-putting, however, and too often appalling is her sometimes syrupy, soap-opera crooning, especially when wed to frequently self-conscious enunciation that has not entirely freed itself from the realm of operatic English.

If you have ever thought that Mandy Patinkin was over the top, wait until you hear Renée. You may be won over by Bryn's initial

voicing of "Nothing's gonna harm you" on "Not While I'm Around" from Stephen Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd*, but you're likely to feel the ax fall when Renée chimes in with "No-one's gonna hurt you." Especially frightening is her solo rendering of "Hello, Young Lovers" from Rodgers and Hammerstein's *The King and I*. Is this the evil Witch of the West trying to fool us into thinking she's the real thing? And when Renée begins the disc's medley from Stephen Sondheim's *Pastor* with "I wish I could forget you," you may find yourself nodding in agreement.

Don't get me wrong. Fleming and Terfel are fine artists, with some of the most appealing, well-recorded voices you're likely to encounter. Their total commitment, enhanced by orchestral arrangements perfectly suited to their interpretations, is quite impressive. In fact, if you love Broadway, you will have great difficulty ignoring this 15-track compilation that travels from the peaks of Cole Porter to the swamps of Andrew Lloyd Weber. It's just that Hallmark's most soupy offerings seem demure in comparison to some of these artists' most egregious excesses. ▼

cises," is filled with joy and light. Each movement save the opening Praeludium is based on a dance form. In Anderszewski's hands, the Praeludium is voiced with extraordinary warmth. Even as the pace increases in the Allemande, the sweetness remains. The succeeding Courante is quite inward, its pace seemingly determined more by the artist's emotional response than Bach's specific sequence of notes.

The Sarabande, executed at an exceedingly slow pace, transcends the mere mechanics of pianism to impress as a hallowed act. Then come the two short Minuets, played with a sense of inevitability that culminates in such sweet-

ness you would think that faeries are dancing on the keyboard. All this leads to the final Gigue, whose beginning is voiced with a touch equally vigorous and precise. Yet as Anderszewski reaches the final bars of Bach's 18-minute masterpiece, he again softens, leaving us with the sensitivity with which he began. It's a marvelous act, and hints of the revelations awaiting those fortunate enough to hear him in person. ▼

Piotr Anderszewski performs March 12, 8 p.m., Herbst Theater, SF. Tickets: (415) 392-4400, or www.sfperformances.org.

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OUT & ABOUT

Calendar

by Mark Mardon



Veronica Klaus invites you to her den

Strangers welcome

The weather outside is getting fractious. Cops versus the DA, Willie foaming at the mouth, the boys in blue in nasty moods — what's a girl to do to stay out of the storm? Why, dive down into the shelter of Cafe Du Nord, where that grand blues diva Veronica Klaus will be warming cockles and muscles, alive, alive, oh!

Veronica's latest soul cabaret, "Hello Stranger," debuts on Saturday, March 8 in the cozy subterranean Du Nord space, and features Tammy Hall on keyboards, Daniel Fabricant on bass, Randy Odell on percussion, and a versatile horn section able to hit all the notes, top to bottom.

Klaus is known for her soulful voice, though she's equally at home singing blues, jazz, brassy show-tunes or her own compositions. Her material ranges from Hi Records-influenced R&B and hot jazz to gorgeous ballads, with queer stuff from Midler to Merle Haggard in for good measure. She does love songs, of course, and love-gone-wrong songs.

The lady says she'll be doing Al Green's "Can't Get Next to You," a song from the hit show *Chicago*, "All That Jazz," Tom Waits' "Can't Wait to Get Off Work," Nina Simone's "Buck," the old Barbara Lewis northern blues number "Hello Stranger," Ethyl Mermaid's "Edie was a Lady," a version of "Cry Me a River" (not your typical Julie London version); and of course her own numbers, including "Dirty Little Secret" and "Bad News" from her album *All I Want* (1997).

As for her spare time, in addition to penning a column for *Gloss*, the queer club guide, she's been recording dance tracks with fellow *Gloss* scribe DJ Marcus Purnell. She did a show in New York for that city's Pride celebration, at a theater called Here, and got a good review from *theatremania.com*. She recently did some backup recording for singer/songwriter Mark Weigle's forthcoming album (she's a character in one of the songs). And she's performing at the New Leaf Gala Benefit on April 8 at Teatro ZinZanni, along with Alan Cummings from *Cabaret*.

Other than that, she keeps busy with her band and looks after her man, Joav. Yes, they're still happily married. "It's good," she swears. ▽

Tickets for "Hello Stranger" are \$8. Showtime: 11pm. Place: Cafe Du Nord, 2170 Market St. (at Sanchez).

Eri

'Bottomless Pit' @ New College Theater

The Experimental Performance Institute (EPI) and InkBoat present "Bottomless Pit: The Descent," filmic movement theater with video landscapes and live music. A disquieting dream that traipses through the exquisite fragility of human perception. A moment when our sense of reality shifts, the bottom drops out of the truth, and we're no longer sure where we stand. Featuring Tanya Calamoneri (conception & performance), Damon Smith (double bass), Andrew Lyndon (video design), Paige Sorvillo (video performance), Cassie Terman (movement direction) and Allen Willner (sound/lighting design). \$13 (NOTAFLOF). 8pm. 777 Valencia St. (btwn 18th & 19th sts). Tix/info: 437-3487, ext. 9; www.inkboat.com

Dhaia Tribe @ Jon Sims Center

"The Outsider in the Homeland: Tales of Arrival and Identity," by AIRspace artist-in-residence Dhaia Tribe, a multi-cultural collective of artists. Poetry, music and visual art come together in this haunting piece of theater, drawing on personal and neighborhood histories to question societal definitions of "The Outsider." Featuring Neela Banerjee, Tommi Avicoli Mecca, Francesca Prada, Pireeni Sundaralingam and John Tunni, with composer Colm O'Riain. \$5-\$10 sliding. 8pm. Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts, 1519 Mission St. (btwn 11th St. & S. Van Ness). Tix/info: 554-0402; jonsimsctr.org

Capacitor @ Cowell Theater

Fusion performance group Capacitor presents *Avatars*, merging visual art, short films, motion capture animation, and high-action fight scenes with a movement vocabulary that includes aerial dance, ballet, pointe work, juggling, kung fu, Afro-Brazilian capoeira, Middle Eastern dance and Chinese folk dance. \$20-\$35. 8pm. Also March 8. Fort Mason Center. Tix/info: 345-7575; www.capacitor.org

'Kudan' @ Oakland Metro
US premiere: Berlin-based dancer Yuko Kaseki's solo *Kudan*. Half-cow, half human, ashamed of itself, the creature *Kudan* "prophesizes" its own death within three days, but is the prophecy true? Will the third day ever come? Kaseki's grotesque and humorous dance is inspired by the story of Hyakken Uchida. \$15-\$20 sliding. 8pm Fri-Sun thru March 16. 201 Broadway, Oakland. Tix/info: 510-763-1146; www.cokaseki.com

Sat

SF Hiking Club
Join other outdoors lovers for a Mt. Olympia and Eagle

Peake hike. Enjoy a late winter romp on some of the less traveled Mt. Diablo trails. It's a strenuous 15-mile hike with a 4,000-ft. elevation gain. Meet 9:20am at the Walnut Creek BART station. Club info: 487-6410; www.sfhiking.com

GLS @ Ft. Baker

"Ft. Baker Adopt-a-Site Day," an ongoing habitat

restoration project with Gay & Lesbian Sierrans. Meet at Fort Baker (north end of the Golden Gate Bridge), at the parking lot btwn the Parade Grounds and the Children's Discovery Museum, at 9:15am for a few hours' work. Work boots required. Bring layers, rain gear, water and lunch. Info: 510-531-9345; email csteane@earthlink.net

Piedmont Yoga Studio, Oakland

"Practice For Peace," a day of Yoga And Meditation with Rodney Yee and the Piedmont Yoga Studio. 2-5pm Yoga and Meditation Classes, followed by Kirtan and Music till 6pm. Outside, to get your good chi energy flowing, Urban Chi Kung will lead standing meditations and qigong/tai chi exercises. Surprise Guests. Art for Peace. Free (donations welcome). All ages. 3966 Piedmont Ave., Oakland. Info: 510-652-3336; www.yeeyoga.com; www.piedmontyoga.com

'Imagine' @ Golden Gate Park Bandshell

"IMAGINE: A Celebration of International Women's Day: Carry the Message of Peace." All are invited. Opening Ritual with Christine Silva (Helping Hand Woman) and Native American Drummers. Closing Ceremony with a Global Peace Prayer. Help create a Peace Mandala: bring flowers, stones, wood, petals, herbs, feathers, moss, and other organic materials. Also instruments and voices. Sign up at 10:30am for open mic to perform or speak. Donations appreciated. 11am-5pm. Info/sign-up: 510-233-6813; spiralmuse.com.

Lavender Seniors @ San Leandro Community Church

Lavender Seniors, a group for gays and lesbians over the age of 55, will hold their monthly potluck at noon. They also seek volunteers of all ages to work with socially isolated seniors. 1395 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro. Info/rides from BART: 510-667-9655.

Int'l Women's Day @ Freight & Salvage, Berkeley

Join an amazing array of artists as they celebrate International Women's Day with a boundary hopping revue of



Alexander Zendzian in flight in Capacitor's Avatars at Cowell Theater. See Friday.

7:45pm, show 8pm-till around 10:15pm. 3192 Adeline St., Berkeley (across the street from the Ashby BART station. Parking is easy). Info: 510-531-6560; www.adrian-west.com

Western Star Dancers @ The Center

"21st Anniversary Square Dance," hosted by Western Star Dancers. Scott Byers, caller. 7-10pm. Rain-

bow

Room, SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St. (at Octavia).

'Night of 1,000 Steps' @ Rassel's Jazz Club

blues, classical, and contemporary folk music. Featuring Barbara Dane, Ronnie Gilbert, Barbara Higbie, Ellen Hoffman, Jennifer Berezan and others. \$19.50 adv, \$20.50 door. 8pm. 1111 Addison St., Berkeley. Tix/info: 510-548-1761; www.freightandsalvage.org

ing/Garrin Benfield @ Voodoo Lounge

Live in concert: Motogirl Productions presents gay rock sensations ing (loud, hard, fast rock n' roll) and Garrin Benfield (intricate, soulful country/blues rock), plus Temple Drake. \$6. 9pm. 2937 Mission St. (btwn 25th & 26th). Info: www.voodoolounge-sf.com

'Adrian's Music Salon' @ TUVA Space, Berkeley

Adrian West presents two one-hour acts. Featuring The Alexis Harte Band ("Junebug," Mentimusic), American folk rock with a distinctive hyper-rhythmic and daring melodic flavor; and singer/songwriter Spencer Day (Plush Room, Cafe Du Nord, Great American Music Hall; Lush Lounge), with Daniel Fabricant on upright bass, Brian Carmody on drums and Yair Evnine on cello and guitar. \$6-\$15 sliding. All ages. Doors open

Foundation 808 presents "A Night of A Thousand Steps," a Latin extravaganza to benefit Shanti (www.shanti.org). Featuring a live performance by The Birds of Paradise, a samba dance group with vibrant costumes and choreography. Learn popular Argentine and Brazilian dance steps. Sketched art 7-8pm; Tango 8-9pm; Salsa 9-10pm; Samba 10-11pm, followed by open dancing. \$25 donation at door. 1534 Fillmore St. (at Geary). Info: 581-0772.

Grupo Social Cultural Hispano

Monthly potluck dinner for all gay men in the Bay Area, regardless of their Spanish-speaking ability. Feast 6-10pm at a member's house above the Castro, by Buena Vista Park. Info: Al at 821-4670.

Contemporary Crafts Market

@ Fort Mason Center
More than 240 crafts artists unite to sell one-of-a-kind items including ceramics, jewelry, glassware, textile and wearable art, and wood and glass furniture. \$6. 10am-6pm. Also Sunday, March 9. Festival Pavilion, Fort Mason Center, Marina Blvd. & Buchanan St. Info: 995-4925; www.CraftSource.org

Kayllynn Raschke as Casey and Emily Jordan as The Kidd in *Strangers In Paradox: The True Story of Casey & The Kidd*, at Theatre Rhinoceros. See Thursday.

Sun

Youth Speaks @ Intersection for the Arts

Intersection's Spring 2003 Literary Series and Youth Speaks present: "Preliminary Round for the 7th Annual Youth Speaks Teen Poetry Slam." The five winners receive a free trip to compete in the National Finals in April in Chicago. Free. 2pm. 446 Valencia St. Info: theintersection.org; youthspeaks.org

'Throwup Queer' @ Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida

Kithology Productions presents "throwup queer & genderfuck handjobs," a free party and crafts affair from 2-6pm: Kithology events are inclusive, non-clique. Check yer phobias at the door. Bring your children, submissives, curiosity and respect. This is an all-ages, queer, genderfuck, str8 inclusive, ethnodiversified, polypositive, D/s respected, fatfabulous, accessible neighborhood shindig. 2pm: DJ BEET, Cut & Paste, Board Games. 2:30pm: Leather, Rubber & Studs - Oh My! 3pm: Crafty Bitches: Hats 101; Movie: *The New-erending Story*. 4pm: Stripping with Knitting Mistress Melanie. 5pm Bubble Gum Blowing Contest. Bring craft scraps, tile samples, leather or vinyl scraps, left over beads or studs, string, yarn, needles, scissors, posterboard, markers crayons buttons etc. Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida, 2973 16th St. (at Mission). To help or donate, email hiccup@kithology.com

Bill Cooper

@ The Plush Room
Bill Cooper returns to the Plush Room with memories of 1967 in his head. His show, "My Summer of Love — Not Yours!" is a 75-minute revue of a world-changing year that for Cooper was decidedly more cabaret on Broadway and 42nd St. than rock 'n' roll on Haight Ashbury. "Refusing to change the pronouns in songs usually sung by women like Elaine Stritch or Judy Garland, Cooper reimagines them alternately as heartfelt gay ballads or the campiest of compositions." — Jim Van Buskirk, *BAR*. \$20 cover plus 2-drink minimum. Doors open 7:30pm. Also March 23 & 30. The York Hotel, 940 Sutter St. (near Leavenworth). Tix: 885-2800.

GLS @ Mt. Davidson
Mt. Davidson hike with Gay and Lesbian Sierrans, followed by lunch in West Portal. Meet in front of Tower Market, on Potrero at Teresita, at 10:30am (accessible via MUNI lines 44, 52, 48 & 36). Bring lunch/money, water, layers and hiking shoes. Well-socialized dogs on leash welcome; bring poop bags and water. Info: Nancy at 586-4114, or Karen at 585-8210 after 9am.

SF Prime Timers @ Unitarian Church

The San Francisco Prime Timers (the former G40+ Club) hosts Dr. Wood Massi, Chairman of the Older Adults Dept. of City College of SF. He'll tell about the 85 free classes now being given at more than 40 locations in SF, including Live Figure Drawing, Theater Appreciation, Exercise & Health Oriented classes and more. Dr. Massi has been active in the gay community for more than 30 years. Free (donations welcome). All welcome. 2-4pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 1187 Franklin (at Geary). Info: 552-1997.

Jamie O'Neill @ Books Inc.

For the paperback release of his novel *At Swim 2 Boys*, author Jamie O'Neill will read from his story of gay men and Irish culture. The book was nominated for a Lambda Literary Award 2003. Free. 2pm. 2275 Market St. (at 16th St.). Info: 864-6777.

Mon 10

'QComedy' @ The Center

"QComedy Showcase," hosted by Pippi Lovestocking, plus Zoe Dunning, Roscoe Bing, Adam Sandel, Nancy Gauquier, Ryan Kasmier, Melanie Borba, Doug Holstclaw, and Bridget Schwartz. \$8-\$15. 8pm. Info: QComedy.com. Tix: 865-5633; harveymilk.org

Theatre of Yugen @ Noh Space

Theatre of Yugen presents Butoh performer Ledoh and musician Reverend Markus Hawkins (violinist, violist, composer) in "Elsewhere Here," a celebration of 10 years of artistic collaboration. \$10-\$15 sliding. 8pm. Also Tue, March 11. 2840 Mariposa St. (at Florida). Tix/info: 621-7978; theatreofyugen.org

Gamelan Sekar Jaya @ SFPALM

Musicians and dancers from the acclaimed Balinese ensemble Gamelan Sekar Jaya will demonstrate their unique musical instruments, their fusion of music with Balinese dance, and discuss their upcoming Cal Performances dramatic work, *Kawit Legong: Prince Karna's Dream*. \$5. 7pm. 401 Van Ness Ave. Tix/info: 255-4800; www.sfpalm.org

The 11

'Hybrid Project' @ Intersection

Intersection presents "The Hybrid Project," an interactive exploration of culture and its edges and borders. Dancers, performers, musicians and poets respond to the audience and to each other by experimenting with a fusion of style, discipline, language and experience. \$5-\$15 sliding. 8pm. Intersection for the Arts, 446 Valencia St. (btwn 15th & 16th). Info: 626-2787; theintersection.org

'Brownies' @ Harvey's Castro

"Brownies for my Bitches," a happening/dyke night with DJs Saratonin and Waxchef + Melissa. They serve up electro, pop, and hip hop every second Tuesday, 10 pm-2 am. at Harvey's Castro, 18th St. and Castro.

Wed 12

Kunst-Stoff @ DanceAbout

Experimental, eclectic dance company Kunst-Stoff, led by Artistic Directors Yannis Adoniou and Tomi Paasonen, present a preview of their latest project, *CONVERSATION* — the American site, an evening-length work examining Greek and American culture, commissioned by the Greece-based dance company ProsXima. The world premiere will take place in Athens, Greece in May 2003. Featuring dancers Yannis Adoniou, Nicole Bonadonna, Kara Davis, Juliann Rhodes,



Yuko Kaseki dances Kudan at the Oakland Metro. See Friday.

Leslie Schickel, Nol Simonse, Hillary Curtis, and Julian De Leon. Followed by Q&A with artists. Free (space limited). 7pm Wed-Fri; 2pm Sat. 55 Laguna St. Reservations: 835-2124; www.kunst-stoff.org

SLDN @ The Center

Join Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN) for a discussion about the current status of "Don't Ask, don't Tell" and how it impacts the gay and lesbian community. Free. 7pm. 1800 Market St. Info: 420-3896; www.sldnsf.org

'Gender Pirates' @ 26 Mix

"Gender Pirates," a new club monthly club for trannyboys & girls, genderqueers, punks, freaks, and anyone who views gender as having more than two options. All-Genders Cheerleading Show, Tranny Boxing Ring, spontaneous strippers, hairy tits contest, and more, with DJ's Carl Campbell and Sam Davis spinning 80's and punk rock. \$3 cover. 26 Mix, at Mission and 26th St.

Thu 13

Barbara Hammer @ Castro Theatre

Frameline presents "Close-Up: Visionaries of Modern Cinema," featuring pioneering experimental director Barbara Hammer (*Menses*, 1974; *Dyketactics*, 1974; *Superdyke*, 1975; *Our Trip*, 1981; *Audience*, 1982; *Ni-trate Kisses*, 1992; *Tender Fictions*, 1995; *History*

Lessons, 2000) on stage, interviewed by professor Patty White. Selected clips and career highlights, and Q&A with audience. Dessert reception. \$12 (\$10 student/senior/disabled) film only; \$50 w/dessert reception. 8pm. Tix/info: 925-866-9599; www.Frameline.org/CloseUp

Center for L/G Studies @ Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley

The Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies (CLGS) in Religion and Ministry in Berkeley presents a "Lavender Lunch" with Antonio Salas, M.Div, MA and panel participants on "Unity in Multiplicity: LGBT Experiences in Multicultural Catholicism. Free. Bring lunch. 12:30-1:30pm. Mudd Hall 100, Pacific School of Religion, 1798 Scenic Ave., Berkeley. Info: 510-849-8206.

'Strangers in Paradox' @ Theatre Rhinoceros

Preview: Theatre Rhinoceros presents the world premiere of *Strangers in Paradox: The True Story of Casey and The Kidd*, written by Kate Bornstein, directed by Russell Blackwood. \$15 previews; \$16 Wed; \$20 Thu/Sun; \$25 Fri/Sat. 8pm Wed-Sat; 3pm & 7pm Sun. 2926 16th St. (btwn Mission & S. Van Ness). Tix/info: 861-5079; www.therhino.org

Kronos Quartet @ SFPALM

In tandem with its current exhibition, *KRONOS@30*, the SF Performing Arts Library & Museum presents "An Open Rehearsal with Kronos Quartet." Kronos has sponsored a nationwide Under 30 Project, a three-year pilot commissioning program to select

composers under age 30 to create new string quartets for the ensemble. The inaugural work will feature Under 30 composer Alexandra du Bois, who joins the Quartet for an open rehearsal of her piece. \$15 (\$10 SFPALM members). 8pm. Veterans Bldg., 401 Van Ness Ave. (at McAlister), 4th floor. Tix/info: 255-4800; sfpalm.org

'Shadowplay' @ Border Cantina

"Shadowplay," an omnisequal post-punk/indie/got/New Wave/punk/electro club night with a mixed queer/straight crowd. Free b4 10:30pm; \$3 after. 10pm-2am. 21 + w/d. 1192 Folsom St. (at 8th St.). Info: www.geocities.com/shadowplays

'Coed Magnetic' @ 26 Mix

"Coed Magnetic," a queer discotheque featuring nasti nu wave, loft hip hop, trasi rock, crisco disco and hi nrg, with DJs bodystocking, Imfeelings and passé, and projections by Jill R. March theme: "Phone Sex." Contest for best simulated orgasm. Cash prize. \$3 (free b4 10pm). 9pm-2am. 3024 Mission St. Info: 826-7378.

icontact @ Focus Gallery

Opening reception: icontact group photographic exhibition by Bill Gimbel (Oakland), Kent Hasel (Santa Rosa), Beth Kientzle (Oakland), Jan Potts and Angelika Schilli (SF), and Robert Schwein (Lafayette). Free. 6-9pm. 2423 Polk St. (at Union). Info: 567-9067.

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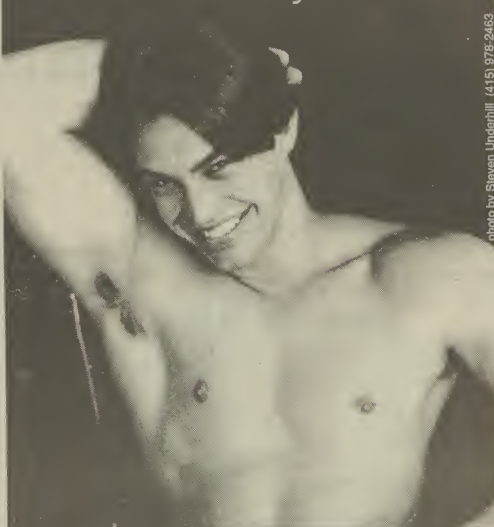


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Tits and sashes

Major doings in SF and Dallas

by Mister Marcus

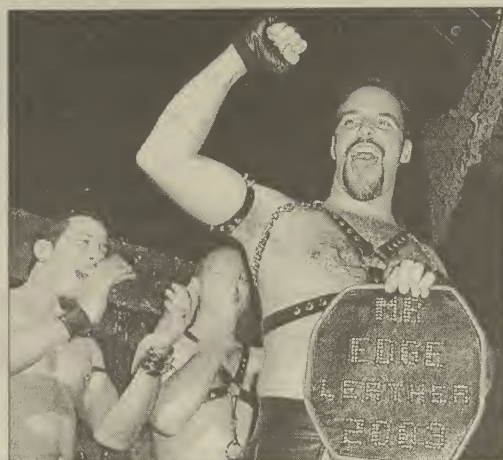
Leather was riding high all weekend in San Francisco and in Dallas. Here in San Francisco, Mr. Edge Leather 2003 was named on Wednesday night, February 27; on Thursday night, February 28, Mr. July 2004 was chosen at the Powerhouse. Meanwhile in Dallas, on Friday, Mr. and Ms. South Plains Leather 2003 were chosen at the Dallas Eagle, and on Saturday night, International Master & slave 2003 were chosen at the Radisson Hotel in Dallas.

But first things first.

San Fran's leading edge

The Edge managed to do what no other bar in town could do — they rounded up four contestants, hunky men all, for their Mr. Edge Leather contest on Wednesday night. T.J. Istvan was sparking as the master of ceremonies, and Sheba belted out some hot numbers.

The four men who competed were Disraeli Cruz, Dave Hendrickson, Gregg Taylor and Frank Vasconcellos. Judges Scott Brogan, Biff Wilson and James Holloway put all four through the paces including interviews, jock wear, speeches and the usual fare for a leather contest. The military theme was abundant and the crowd was energetic and responsive to the auctioned items and the repartee of T.J. Istvan. Scott Brogan's stepping aside speech was a short 11 minutes and he



Frank Vasconcellos, that hunky mortician from Hayward, was chosen Mr. Edge Leather 2003 last Wednesday, Feb. 27. He will compete for the Mr. SF Leather 2003 title on Sat. March 8 at the Eagle Tavern.

thanked those who made his year with the title a success. Again, lots of leather women were in the audience, and at least three of the Mr. SF Leather 2003 judges.

The moment of truth arrived at around 2345, when it was announced that Dave Hendrickson was to be the first runner-up and Frank Vasconcellos of Hayward is Mr. Edge Leather 2003. Frank is a mortician, single and looking forward to the competition this Saturday.

It was a great evening with lots of laughs, great entertainment and a fun theme throughout.

The Meet and Greet (contestants and judges) for Mr. SF Leather 2003 is Friday night at the Eagle Tavern, at 2100, and the contest is Saturday night at 2000 at the same venue. It's a free event but you can partake of the beer/soda bust by the SF Boys of Leather. Also, the audience gets to vote for their favorite contestant, so don't miss it!

I was out of town for the 7th bare chest contest at the Powerhouse last Thursday, and missed all the fun when Glennon Sutter emceed the competition with four men going for the Mr. July 2004 spot on the calendar. Judges Dan Alexander, Jeff Taylor, Richard Perez and James S. Geras had a field day with the hopefuls. When it was all over, J. Michael Lieden took the July spot on next

year's calendar. Mr. August 2004 will be chosen tonight, Thursday, March 6 at 2130.

Marcus does Dallas

In spite of the icy glaze all over Dallas, more than 800 leather people converged on the Radisson Hotel for South Plains Leather Fest and the competition for Mr. and Ms. South Plains Leather 2003 and International Master & slave 2003.

Numerous workshops and demonstrations prevailed for two days, along with a great leather market that offered goods galore, and two party parties where everyone was hell-bent on having a good time.

Anybody who didn't have a good time really wasn't trying.

Four men and one woman competed for the South Plains Leather titles: Miss Julia Keathley, Chris Beck, Travis Hyde, Daddy Mike Horned and DeWayne Messer. They were put through the paces by judges Ed Whittler, outgoing Mr. So. Plains Leather, IML Stephen Weber, Graylin Thornton, Dave Rhodes and Slave Heather, and it was fun for me judging with this group.

The Dallas Eagle was packed to the rafters on Friday night as the contestants went through the rigors of the competition. For a 53-year-old woman, Miss Julia had the men and the women en-

next page ►

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, March 6

Mr. August 2004 will be chosen tonight at the Powerhouse as the number of spaces dwindles to five before the competition ends for another year.

Friday, March 7

Meet and Greet the Mr. SF Leather 2003 contestants and the judges tonight at the Eagle Tavern at 2000 until 2300.

Saturday, March 8

Mr. San Francisco Leather 2003 contest at 2000 at the Eagle Tavern with a beer/soda bust by the SF Boys of Leather.

Also tonight in San Diego, Tom Dickerson steps aside as Mr. San Diego Leather and a new title holder will be chosen. It will be a hot time in California this weekend!

Sunday, March 9

"Bless You P-Flag" beer/soda bust at the Eagle

Tavern from 1500-1800 with life entertainment, raffles, fun. A benefit for P-Flag with food.

Tuesday, March 11

Bondage Buddies tie each other up tonight at 933 Harrison; doors open 2100-2300. For info, call 777-HEAD.

Friday, March 14

The SF Zoo is the place to be tonight for the annual Breast Cancer Emergency Fund banquet in the Leaping Lemur Center at 1930. Tix are \$75 obtainable at www.frantix.net or call 866-372-67849. For more info, click on www.mamasfamily.org.

Saturday, March 15

Maryland Leather Sir/Boy competition at The Hippo in Baltimore tonight. Winners advance to Mid-Atlantic Leather Sir/Boy contest.

POLKSTRASSE

Sweet nothings

Cocktails with friends at Kimo's

by Sweet Lips

It was nice to see June Banda — looking great! — along with Marlowe, Hal, Joe and Jerry Patterson, having cocktails together recently at Kimo's. They're a great group of friends. It just so happens I'm bartending at Kimo's four days a week, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday through Tuesday, and I'm really enjoying it.

Incidentally, Brian of Kimo's has a sensational singing voice — he should be on *Star Search*!

Steve Raskin's Portland Party at the Club Rendez-Vous not only was a hilarious event, but it raised over \$2,300 for the Portland Edu-

cation Fund. Not bad!

The Gangway bar on Larkin Street still has the multi-talented bartender and DJ Mr. Johnny Weise, doing as ever a fantastic job. A special hello to Black Beauty.

Ginger's Trois at 246 Kearny St., between Sutter and Bush in the financial district, has some of the handsomest customers in the city, and all very friendly.

Cafe Volutta, the great new Italian restaurant at 1653 Polk St. (near Clay), has some of the best

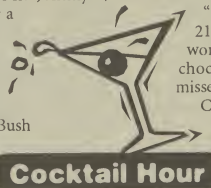
food I have eaten in a long time, both lunch and dinner. Give them a try!

I want to thank "Tiger Lily" Empress 21 of all Alaska for the wonderful "Lips" chocolates — sorry we missed each other during Coronation week.

Have you seen the movie *Chicago* yet? If not, please do, as it is one of the

best made and most enjoyable films in years!

If you have an item for this column, please get it to me at least two weeks ahead at Kimo's. ▼



Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

thrilled. The men were no slouches either with dazzling leather outfits and a stage presence that wowed the audience. Tom Stice and Ms. Glenda of Baltimore handled the emcee chores in a delightful, fun and accurate manner.

The basket auction for the winners' travel fund garnered a hefty amount, and the crowd was generous with their cash and their applause, especially at the outcome of the competition. The long wait ended at almost midnight when it was announced the Chris Beck (Mr. Dallas Eagle 3) was the first runner-up and Travis Hyde (nee' Joseph Beach) of Austin, Texas was chosen Mr.

South Plains Leather 2003. He advances to compete at IML 2003.

Miss Julia of Oklahoma City managed to grab the lion's share of available points to become MS. South Plains Leather 2003. A Southern Lady to the core, Miss Julia advances to compete for the Ms. World Leather 2003 later this year.

It was a great night, a great competition and a real "Dallas" event. Special thanks to Gary Steele who made the weekend fun and interesting beyond expectations.

Saturday night, another horde convened in the Atrium of the Radisson Hotel to watch the Mr. and Ms. International Slave 2003 competition. There were three couples vying: Ms. Deborah and slave boy Greg of Lexington, Kentucky; Master Tiano and slave boy

Neil of Springfield, Virginia and Mistress Nadine Cutler and slave boy cutler of Tempe, Arizona. Again, Tom and Glenda did a great job and the expert auctioning by Randal Kinnear of various baskets and gifts garnered nearly \$8,000. The judges: Jack McGeorge, Ms. Pat, Ms. Hromov, Master Alex Keppeler, Master Skip Chasey, Slave Kirk Thomas and Sharrin Spector voted to name Valley of the Sun denizens Nadine and Bert Cutler as International Master and slave 2003. It was a joyous, fun and interesting occasion, believe me.

Sunday, workshops, demos continued with a great brunch and the consensus is that South Plains Leather Fest is growing by leaps and bounds. It should be another hot time in Dallas next March. Don't miss it! ▼

Rudolf Nureyev

◀ page 33

go-lucky, profane procurer of drunks and boys. His narratives are the most entertaining in the book, although I also like Fonteyn. At one point, she tries to flee the sounds of Rudi and Erik making such noisy love in the next hotel room that she has to run the bathwater extra loud and put cotton in her ears. This serious story has its hilarious moments.

Rudi himself occasionally appears, but his comments are so materialistic and crude ("shit" is his favorite word) that you welcome his prim French housekeeper, Odile, and her strange romance with Tom, the cobbler who

makes the Royal Ballet's dancing shoes. We also learn that life under Communism is much scarier when you're in somebody's head, and, as the characters grow older, together we discover the painful awareness of mortality. Fonteyn's husband is shot and paralyzed; she dies of ovarian cancer. Victor and then Rudi contract AIDS from their adventures in New York's teeming baths, bars and parks.

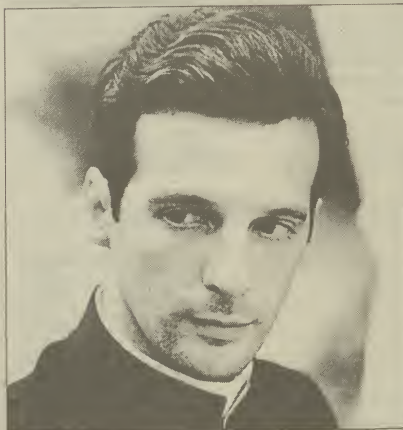
McCann is straight, but he has that scene cold, its erotic allure, its seedy aftermath. Surprisingly, the Nureyev-Fonteyn drug bust on the roofs of San Francisco, which made international headlines, is not in the book. It was probably too melodramatic.

Though he obviously agrees

with the world that Rudi was a great artist, McCann is unsparing about Nureyev's flaws — his rudeness to friends, his greed for possession of beautiful objects (the afterward is a list of paintings and *objets d'art* from the Nureyev Collection, sold in New York and London), his self-destructive drug and sexual habits.

McCann's lyrical lists, starting with the horrors Russian soldiers faced in WWII, are a slick method of cramming information into a few pages. Yet it doesn't seem like cramming. The book flows and soars, much like Nureyev dancing at his best. When he went on too long, his injuries and sad receptions are described in the same thoughtful, provocative style. ▼

FILM



'Amen' corner

Director Constantin Costa-Gavras is noted for his filmmaking artistry and keen political consciousness. His film *Z*, based on the 1966 Greek military coup, netted him an Academy Award. His films *The Confession*, *State of Siege* and *Missing* took political oppression as their subjects. Now his Holocaust docudrama *Amen* opens Friday in the Bay Area.

The film is based on the true story of SS officer Kurt Gerstein, who discovers that the Zyklon B pellets he developed to disinfect soldiers' drinking water are being used by the Nazis to gas interred Jews. The only one who will listen to his ghastly revelation is Father Riccardo Fontana (Mathieu Kassovitz, in photo), who implores Pope Pius XII to denounce the atrocity. We all know how that turned out.

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PARTING GLANCES

"Missed Connections"
Giancarlo the hairdresser. We used to date but lost contact with you. I used to have the cats. Would like to see you again. My name is Mark. ☎ 72402

Colma Bart Cute Black Guy
You- Blk man, shaved head at Colma Bart Wed nite 29th, me- Wht guy, end train, let's talk! ☎ 72403

Blow Buddies Thurs. 1/9/03
You worked my supersensitive nipples as I took every single inch of your big, fat, uncut meat. It was hot for both of us. Let's do it again. ☎ 72404

• Salvador •
Nobody kisses like you— Lawrence. ☎ 72405

"Hey There Littleman"
To the Artist formerly known as my boyfriend: Happy belated. That's all. No strings. P. "The canvas must blush. You flatter it so." ☎ 72418

Half Indian Ex-Mormon On Market HIV+
New Years Day of 2002 we lost touch, I wanted to tell you of Jack Haley's death. Are you still alive? You, or a friend, please contact me. ☎ 72419

Sugar On 7/22 At Stud I'm A Fool
You: Strawberry blond with the sweetest smirk I've ever seen. Me: tallish, drk brn mid-length hair. You said hi, me hello. But questioned sincerity. Help! Another chance? Wanna dance? ☎ 72436

Bicyclist Noe Java 2-22-3pm
Red cap watched bike/ movie talk. ☎ 72437

Cliff's Variety Feb 14, Yogamat
Bumped into you twice (looking for Valentines) Are you cupid or just a cutie...? ☎ 72438

Doctor's Office 2/19/03
You: handsome bearded Latino man with mom. Me: short, cute blond with glasses. Numerous glances and smiles exchanged before you left suite 911. Would love to ask you out! ☎ 72439

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

~European SR~
5'8", 143# fit loving affectionate discreet N/S seeks fit Blk counter part. ☎ 72406

Poz Looking For Real Man
Looking for down to earth guy for dating and ltr. I'm 43, 6'2", 200lbs, like movies, walks on beach, quiet times at home, no N/S not into bar or gay scenes. ☎ 72407

GWM 53 HIV- Oral Bear
Seeks Latino/Asian cubs for nights out and nights in. Please no drugs or fems. ☎ 72408

Seeking Relationship
Single mature WM good height/weight proportion, disease/ drug free, ISO similar buddy for mutual pleasure, J/O, oral, massage etc. ☎ 72420

Peninsula And South Bay
Friendly, masculine, easy-going guy 44 with trim waist and nice look wants to meet another trim waist guy 20 to 40's for fun and friendship. ☎ 72421

W 40yr Old Oral Top 5'10" 165
Seeks guy 19-30 for adventur, friendship and fun. I like to travel, movies & sports. Prefer cleancut White or Latino guy. Pls no drugs. ☎ 72440

I'm 48 5'9" 150# Work Out 3 Days
A week swimmer build, big arms, nice pecs, flat stomach nice dick, smooth tight butt, into art, Zen, Yoga, & life, I.N.S. Other in shape guys to date. Age, race unimportant. Nice body cool attitude a must. HIV-. ☎ 72441

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Lean And Hairy
Smooth masculine trim WM 43 seeks another trim guy with facial or body hair from 20 to your 40's for naked fun or friendship, any race or height. ☎ 72409

Seeking Middle Aged, Balding Hung Oral Bottom. Heavy, intense j/o, dirty talk, cock worship, partying buddy desired. Your place, PM preferred. Not into toys, videos, groups, anal. Long partying scenes encouraged. ☎ 72410

"Older Men"
WLM 47, 6', 165lbs. I enjoy making senior men feel good all over with lots of affection & slow, sensual oral pleasure. Husky/heavy, bearded A+. No pain, S&M, gay scene but smoking ok. ☎ 72411

Hot Passionate East Bay Bottom
39yrs. W/M 5'9", 150lbs, blond swimmer build 8", open to most scenes. Looking for men for hot sex possible relationship. Can travel to S.F. ☎ 72412

Masc Dom Ital Top 4 Boy Trainee
36yr. Italian top man 5'10" 165lbs 30 waist and handsome looking for boy to train the way I want him. Must be tall dark hair and willing. ☎ 72413

Celebrate Black History Month
With this mature, mellow Black gentleman. Massage me, serve me drinks, enjoy my ebony manhood. I enjoy mature men, tall and husky men and men with moustache's. Hotels? ☎ 72422

Wants Older Black Men To Suck Bi WM- looking for older Black men, seniors, retired to suck. In San Francisco, weekdays- daytime only. Let me make you feel good with my mouth. Nice guys only. ☎ 72423

Seeking Senior Top!
Bi bottom 50 seeks senior top over 60 for once a week in Sonoma county. Couples considered. ☎ 72424

Hairy Suck Buddy Wanted
By hairy muscular daddy for mutual cocksucking, nipwork, kissing, 69+++. Looking for healthy Poz, masculine, tall GWM like me- 5'11", 185, 50. Prefer 40+, in SF, inshape, repeats. ☎ 72425

Seeking Indo-American, South Asian
Oral Bottom preferably hairy and hung for heavy, intense j/o, dirty talk, cock worship, partying buddy desired. Your place, PM preferred. Not into toys, videos, groups, ltr, shaved body parts, anal. Long partying scenes encouraged. ☎ 72430

~Naked Ecstasy~
Free soothing massage session for trim masculine guys from 20's to 40's by easy going trim masculine WM 44. ☎ 72431

Seeking Middle Aged, Chubby
Balding oral bottom preferably hairy and hung for heavy, intense j/o, dirty talk, cock worship. Drinking partying buddy desired. Your place PM preferred. Not into toys, videos, groups (its), shaved body parts, anal. Long partying scenes encouraged. ☎ 72432

Vicious Cocksucker/ Nine Inch!
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•Celebrate Black History Month•
Pamper this mellow, mature Black gentlemen. Massage me, serve me drinks, relieve my tension. Seeking a mature, masculine, submissive man with a moustache. Direct contact phone number required. Hotel? ☎ 72434

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•Hot Butt Eater•
42y.o. GWM, hot, brn, blu, 6' 165#, big bushy mustache ready to take hot trim butts for a ride on my mustache & slide down my tongue. ☎ 72448

Desires Thick Cocked Average/ Masculine Guy. Heavy, intense j/o, dirty talk, phallic worship, partying buddy desired. Some oral ok. Your place, pm only. Not into toys, videos, groups, anal. Long partying scenes only. ☎ 72449

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My fantasy is to rim a big, White, smooth, supple, fat ass; you need to be 18-30. ☎ 72426

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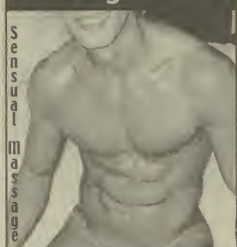
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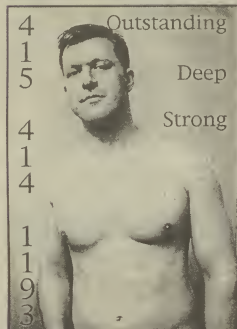
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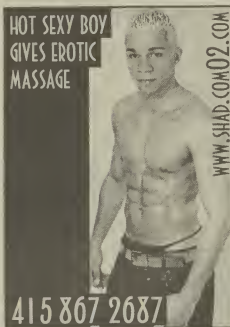
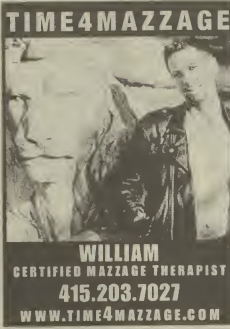
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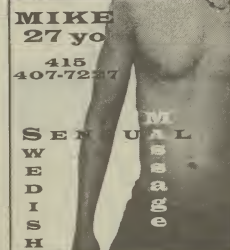
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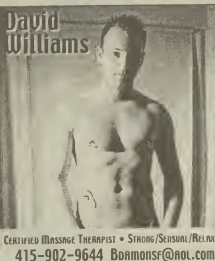
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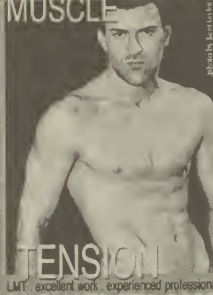
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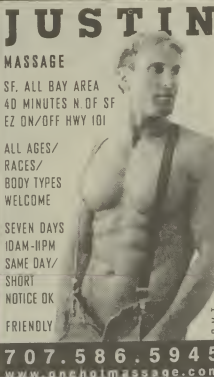
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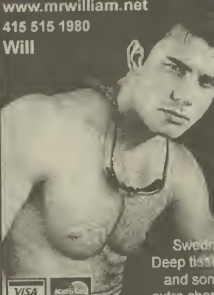


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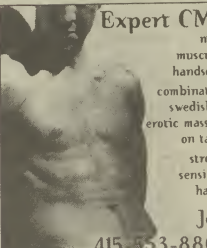
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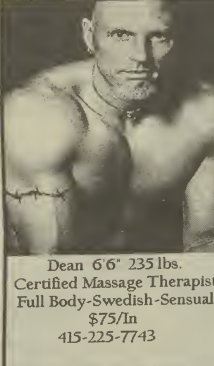
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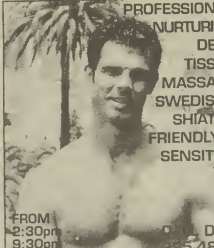
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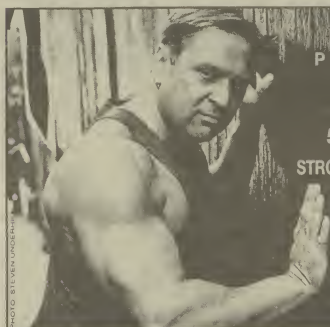


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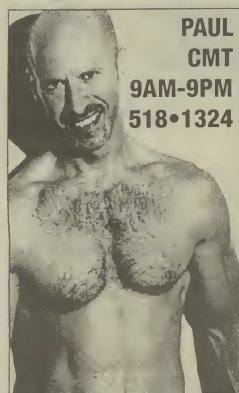
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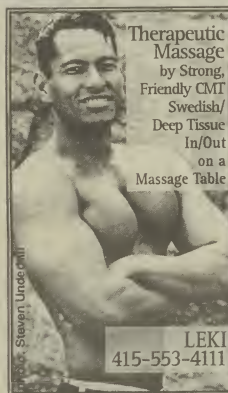
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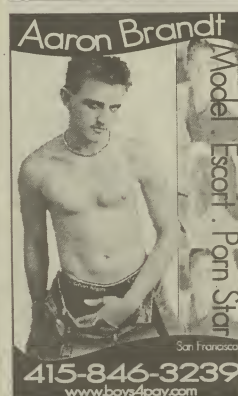
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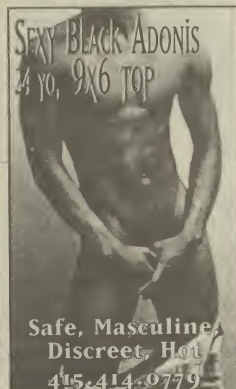
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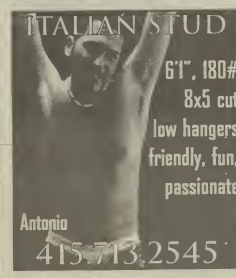
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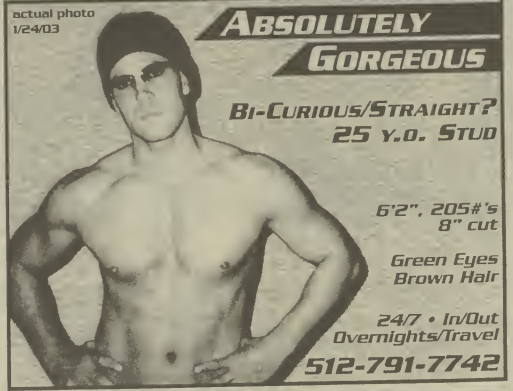
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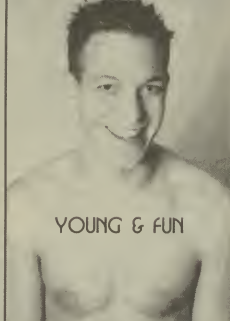


"Heaven"
9' 24 hours
(415) 775-4771



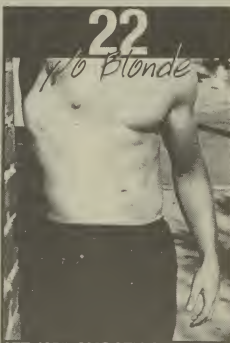
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HUNG
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MASCULINE TOP MID 40s 6'3 185#
ENJOY SCENES FROM SLOW, SENSUAL
& PASSIONATE TO LEATHER & KINK.
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EXPLORE SOMETHING NEW WITH ME!
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LOCAL
MENLIVE
CHATVOICE
MAIL

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San Jose
408-257-4411

Pleasanton
925-426-5588

Palo Alto
650-223-0200

Berkeley
510-238-8877

Other Local #s
1-888-272-7277

FREE
TRIAL

Use Code:2160

1-900-505-2323 (\$1.99/min.)

1-888-883-8388 (99¢/min.) 18+

GET RELIEF! 1-900-505-2324 10¢/min. 18+

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Local Guys!

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Bay Area's hottest chatline

Men Meet Men Right Now!

Preview each guy before you decide to connect live!

Try it for

FREE

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- Voice Mail

24 Hours

\$2.00

976-7500

Free

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Live Male Chat.

Record/listen to ads FREE!

415-402-1010 or

1-888-272-7277 T/F

FREE w/code 2166

PEOPLE

HUNGRY BITCHES

'Brownies 4 My Bitches' - Lesbian,
Gay, Dyke, Straight, Man, Woman,
Confused, Interested, Bored Dance
night at Harvey's in the Castro.
Tuesday, March 11, 10pm. Hip-Hop,
Old School, Ghetto, Orange County,
Retro, Disco, and Brownies too!

E10

MR. SF LEATHER 2003

will be chosen Saturday, March 8th
at the Eagle Tavern.

IT'S FREE!

AND YOU GET TO VOTE

FOR YOUR FAVORITE MAN

Beer/Soda Bust by the SF Boys of
Leather. Be there!

E10

Butt Bottoms wanted for FF/toys
415-752-0971

E13

Good Head in Sonoma County.
Call Days 707-823-3895

E12

BAY AREA REPORTER

PERSONALS ORDER FORM

Indicate
Type Style
Here ▼

X-BOLD Stops Here ▼

BOLD Stops Here ▼

CAPS Stop Here ▼

Regular Stops Here ▼

DEADLINE

NOON on MONDAY.

Payment must accompany ad.
No ads taken over the
telephone. If you have a
question, call 415.861.5019.
Display advertising rates
available upon request.

RATES

First line, Regular 4.50
All subsequent lines 3.00
CAPS double price
BOLD double price
X-BOLD triple price

PAYMENT

- ☐ Cash
☐ Personal Check
☐ Money Order
☐ Visa
☐ MasterCard

Minimum \$10 charge
on Visa and MasterCard.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Card Number

Expiration Date

Signature

Name

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name

Telephone

Address

City

State

Zip

Number of Issues

Classification

Amount Enclosed

MAIL WITH
PAYMENT TO:

BAY AREA
REPORTER
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco, CA
94103

OR FAX TO:
415.861.8144

PERSONALS

PEOPLE



EMAIL
your
massage or
model/escort
ad to

BARadv@aol.com

BAY AREA REPORTER

LOW HANGERS

The art of Roderick Cooper is hanging so low at Harvey's in the Castro, that you can get a really good look at it. His stuff is kick-ass, and it's going to be worth \$\$\$ one day. Now, though, it's on sale, and it's pretty cheap - which should not be taken as a reflection of the artist.

E10

Concord GAM luvs sucking cock
Sks 20-40s STD/HIV- G/BI/BL/WM
Pls no overweight 925 671 2704

E10E2002

Body Trim & Shave "Castro Area Location". Call 4 apptmt * 626-1168

E14

San Francisco's #1 Gay Dateline
Call: 1-900-255-2221 \$2.99 min.
18+. \$3.49 connection charge.

E11

S.F. SPANK PARTY INFO

415-864-2766 or Private Session

E10

Bare-Assed Spanking
Experienced, Safe: 415-929-1185

E10E2003

FREE XXX PORN

HotHouse.com/FreePorn

E10

Have belt will tan. Chakra high centering. 510-654-1122

E11

Local men sexdate: 888-788-8989

E10

BAD BOYS SPANKED

over Daddy's knee. (415)864-2766

E11

Like nudepictures 18-23 only. If you are Asian only with 12" to 15" inch dick & like to fuck all time or be sucked all the time for hours anytime. Pager: 415-356-8815

E13

CASTRO BODY GROOMING

Personal areas to full body
Confidential/Private/Affordable
Licensed! 415-282-1997**MARK**

E10

MR. SAN FRANCISCO LEATHER 2003

will be chosen on March 8th 2003. Be the 25th man from the world's greatest leather community to represent San Francisco at IML in May!! No sponsor needed. No obligation to a bar or business sponsor. Be a man. Do it on your own! Show your leather pride to the world in Chicago!

E11

Seek Costa Rican Buddy
Super nice HIV-Blue Eyed man 55 seeks uncut bottom buddy for hot times. 650-274-9200. Leave #

E10

MUSCLES

New Bodybuilder Hunk 'Zeb Atlas' aka (Andy) in Torso & Adv. Men mag Now on Terry Photo New Pump #5 Team Universe-DVD-R's & VHS Tape See this Giant in Pump Room and on state- 'The Magazine' 920 Larkin St/SF.Tues/Sat 12/7PM

E10

CONGRATULATIONS TO FRANK VASCONCELLOS

Mr. Edge Leather 2003 and good luck at the Mr. SF Leather Contest Saturday night, March 8th at the Eagle Tavern. Go Frank Go!

E10

WM will JO/BJ/Rim ALL races 18-28, fit. S.Cruz Co 831-722-3739-

E13

XXX WEB

SIDE EFFECTS
REPORTED ON
M4M!

- Constant shortness of breath at night
- Pressing need to buy more sheets
- Day-dreaming about tonight's date



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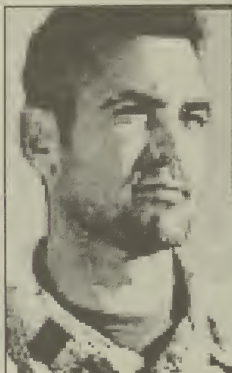
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Photo ads, galleries, models,
Looking for daddy models 40-65.
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Call 800-837-6007

E13

WWW.SPANKTHIS.COM

New + original M/M Spanking videos
for purchase or online viewing. Catalog request to: S.T., PO Box 4799, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33338. State age.

E12



Mr. San Francisco
Leather 2003
Saturday
March 8, 2003
at 8pm
The Eagle Tavern

SexPigs.com

FREE!

* 6 Months Special

nasty men
photo ads / fast sex

* FREE 6 Months Special is a limited time offer without further notification
all major cities / must be 18+



I didn't survive gay bashing
so I could die from lung cancer.

I had to stop smoking.

—MARK

CIGARETTES ARE MY GREATEST ENEMY

TOBACCO CAUSES MORE DEATHS IN THE LGBT COMMUNITY THAN AIDS, DRUGS, BREAST CANCER AND BASHING COMBINED

Funded by the American Legacy Foundation. Mark's story does not necessarily represent the views of the Foundation, its staff, or its Board of Directors.
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ORANGE COUNTY

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